

TEAM GROUPS:
BRIGHTON
and **DUNDEE UTD.**
12th DECEMBER, 1981



STEVE ARCHIBALD
of Tottenham & Scotland
signs for **SHOOT!**

SHOOT!

25p



**SPAIN
HERE WE
COME**

SPECIAL WORLD CUP REPORT

World Cup
celebrations.
England's Phil
Thompson and Alvin
Martin will be joined
in Spain by
Northern Ireland's
Pat Jennings and
Gerry Armstrong
(below).



ALSO
FEATURED:

**ROBSON
CLARKE
BOND
SANSOM
DAWSON
ELLIOTT
McGHEE**
and other stars



Paul Mariner's
(No 9) glory goal
against
Hungary.

THE champagne celebrations signifying Hungary's burial on a wet autumn night at Wembley are over. Now the action really begins.

Ron Greenwood, crucified and

HOW ENGLAND CAN SHOCK THE WORLD IN SPAIN

congratulated in the space of a few tumultuous weeks of heartache and hero-worship, has until June 11 to find the right blend of players necessary for England to make something of an impact at a Mecca they feared was beyond them a few weeks ago — the 1982 World Cup Finals in Spain.

Few experts are prepared to back England so the pressure will be taken off Kevin Keegan and his team-mates in the build-up to the greatest soccer show on earth.

Greenwood has five matches, maybe six if a game can be arranged with Belgium, to drive as much skill into the side as there is enthusiasm.

England played against Hungary as if the day of reckoning had arrived and there would be no tomorrows. But Greenwood

knows that blood, sweat, and tears are not enough to win the most prestigious trophy in the game.

He needs an injection of young talent, for some of England's old legs could wilt and die in the torrid heat of a Spanish summer.

Greenwood hints heavily that the England team that beat Hungary is unlikely to be the line-up that plays in the first game next summer.

"A lot of people have the incentive to make the side. It could be almost a different team that plays in Spain," he says.

If ever there was a "come on" to the exciting crop of younger players in the wings, that is it.

So who are the players capable of fulfilling Greenwood's demands?

Kenny Sansom, Arsenal's mobile, attacking left-back, must be giving 32-year-old Mick Mills nightmares. Mills got the vote at Wembley against Hungary but Sansom's younger legs could be favoured in Spain.

Phil Neal, too, must be anxious about his future after an outstanding England career, though Viv Anderson has not played for England since the Scotland game last season.

Glenn Hoddle is itching to get a lengthy run for England and the West Ham pair Alan Devonshire and Paul Goddard are also probables for Spain.

Tony Morley's thrilling contribution to England's second half performance against Hungary augurs well for the Villa winger.

Kevin Keegan
and Hungarian
"shadow"
Sandor Sallai.

Fresh blood harnessed to the experience of men such as Kevin Keegan, Phil Thompson and Trevor Brooking gives England a chance of surprising the rest of the world in Spain.



Heroes all — but are they good enough?

THE sheer joy of reaching the World Cup Finals should not obscure the team problems England face in moulding a winning unit for battle against the finest teams in the world on Spain's sun ripened pitches.

The 12 players Ron Greenwood employed against Hungary at Wembley were heroes to a man. Most of them will be on the plane to sunny Spain, but England's manager hinted strongly at Wembley that the composition of his team could be very different when the Finals start on June 11.

Who is safe and who's future is in jeopardy? Here is a critical assessment of the players' performances on an

STEVE COPPELL

unforgettable night, their chances of representing England in the Finals and total number of appearances to date.

PETER SHILTON: Unemployed at Wembley save for two shots on target. One of the world's finest goalkeepers and happy to share the England workload with the equally sound Ray Clemence. 35 caps.

PHIL NEAL: A fine Wembley performance punctuated by memorable attacking forays and a thrilling 30-yard drive. Aged 30, he is suspect defensively, his timing adrift against world class wingers, but Greenwood will take some convincing his England career is nearing the end. 34 caps.

MICK MILLS: A good display against Hungary, typical of his consistency in all previous appearances. But Sansom, nine years his junior and more vigorous in attack with ability to get behind defences, could be favoured in Spain. 35 caps.

ALVIN MARTIN: Hungary's inept attack was no real test for the youngster, but he did enough to show he bears the same strengths which endeared Dave Watson to the England management in 63 internationals. Foster, Osman, Butcher could all be kept at bay by the man West Ham call "Stardust". 3 caps.

PHIL THOMPSON: A polished



Wembley display, though could be criticised for keeping possession when more rapid distribution would have increased pressure on the Hungarians. 31 caps.

TERRY McDERMOTT: Workaholic against Hungary. Strong in the tackle with immaculate distribution but lacks that extra dimension needed at England level. The more classy Wilkins might be preferred in Spain. 21 caps.

BRYAN ROBSON: No wonder he's the costliest player in British history. Bone jarring tackles and a thunderous shot make him the most exciting player to emerge since Keegan's England debut in 1973. Brazilians, Argentinians, he'll skin them alive if he gets a chance. 14 caps.

TREVOR BROOKING: If Brooking plays, England play. He proved it again at Wembley. England's Rolls-Royce in midfield. Too old at 33? Rubbish. Brooking's close control will be crucial to England's needs in Spain. 44 caps.

STEVE COPPELL: Another sound display against Hungary until injured and will be at Greenwood's side in Spain. He rarely achieves the unexpected but with work-rate, distribution, lung power and shooting he compensates handsomely for those deficiencies. 34 caps.

KEVIN KEEGAN: A thorn in Hungary's side for the full 90 minutes, Keegan's leadership qualities and experience on foreign soil will be vital assets in Spain. Nothing is beyond "Mighty Mouse" as he plans for his last great battle. 59 caps.

PAUL MARINER: Fortune favours the bold and no Wembley hero was more courageous than Mariner. The squad system should ensure a prolonged England career even if Trevor Francis will breathe down his neck in Spain. 18 caps.

TONY MORLEY: He tortured Hungary's right-flank after replacing Coppell to make his full debut. Now the Villa winger is fiercely determined to win a regular place in England's five internationals before the Finals. His fast, direct, tantalising wing wizardry could be heavily exploited by England in their efforts to crack cleverly organised defences.

Bryan Robson — England's new colossus



EVERY so often a player emerges to send the pulse racing whenever he makes an appearance for his national team.

Duncan Edwards strode like a colossus through 18 England matches before he perished with his Manchester United teammates in the 1958 Munich air disaster.

Edwards was an England superstar before sporting heroes were given such titles.

Then came Bobby Charlton, from the same Manchester United soccer academy, who carved himself pride of place in world soccer history in 106 England games.

On November 17, 1972 England beat the Welsh and their performance signalled the arrival of

another golden great — Kevin Keegan.

Now, we salute another superstar in the making — Bryan Robson, the costliest footballer in British history.

The Manchester United and England midfield star has all the skills necessary to write himself into the history books in the same manner as his illustrious predecessors.

Robson, 24, with 14 caps, is every inch the boy's comic hero. He has none of the artistry of Bobby Charlton or Kevin Keegan, but comes from the same mould which honed Duncan Edwards for a brief but glittering England career.

Robson's commitment is absolute. His tackling is awesome in its ferocity within the laws of the game. His control of England's midfield against Hungary was breathtaking.

He has two main ambitions. One, to win the World Cup, the other to captain England.

Nothing, but nothing, is beyond this player's capabilities — and Duncan Edwards would be proud to know that Bryan Robson is treading the same golden path he took with United and England more than 20 years ago.

JUST GREAT!

ONE of the longest running soccer thrillers in the history of the game is over. England are through to the World Cup Finals after shrugging off the gremlins which plotted to destroy them.

Ron Greenwood's men booked their passage to Spain by beating Hungary 1-0 on a wave of supercharged emotion both at Wembley and in homes all over the country.

A nation sighed with undisguised relief as Kevin Keegan raised his hands in a victory salute and danced out of the stadium to a hallelujah chorus from the terraces.

It means that English sports lovers can look forward to Test Matches, Wimbledon and football next summer.

SHOOT view!

England's qualification for a tournament which at one time seemed beyond their capabilities is a joyous, timely fillip for a land deeply depressed by an unemployment crisis, rising crime rate, and unlawful savagery in Northern Ireland.

The England team have driven fresh hope into anxious souls — and life is happier at a stroke.

Paul Mariner's match-winning goal is probably the most important the Ipswich striker will score. But if his effort was crucial to English soccer history, Gerry Armstrong's against Israel was no less significant in launching Northern Ireland to the Finals for the first time since 1958.

Bonny Scotland's defeat in Portugal has done nothing to dampen the tartan spirit, for Jock Stein's heroes have fairly romped to the Finals with the minimum of fuss.

Wales cling to the hope of Russia beating the Czechs and the Republic of Ireland will be hoping for a miracle if they are to qualify, but even without them, the entry from these shores is guaranteed to make the 1982 Finals the most compelling for years.

The message for all who travel to Spain next summer is short and sharp. Well done — and good luck!

LUCK ENGLAND... WELL

ley as England beat the Hungarians to qualify for Spain.

Villain one moment, hero the next. Such are the changing fortunes of men who play for high stakes in the cruelly demanding, often frightening world of Association Football.

Wembley Wonderman — that's Ron



IT would have been difficult to find a more unpopular man than Ron Greenwood when England crashed to Norway three months ago and appeared to blow their chances of qualifying for the World Cup Finals.

On the night of Wednesday, November 18 the Ogre of Oslo became the Wonderman of Wemb-

tion Football.

We respectfully point out that we have never lost faith in Ron Greenwood. SHOOT urged the Football Association not to sack him after England's May defeat in Switzerland was followed by pleas for his scalp. "Ron Greenwood is too valuable to English football for that to be a sensible course of action" we said.

So, today, we take pleasure in extending to Ron Greenwood the warmest congratulations for steering an England team to the tournament for the first time in 21 years as non automatic qualifiers.

Greenwood, who has restored pride and respectability to England's team after all the bitterness evoked by Don Revie's defection to the Middle East, puts it simply: "My terms of reference were to get

THE ROUTE TO SPAIN

January 16: The Draw in Madrid.
February 23: England v Northern Ireland, at Wembley.

March 24: England v France, Paris.

April 27: England v Wales, Cardiff.

May 29: England v Scotland, Hampden Park.

June 3: England v Finland (away).

June 11: World Cup Finals start.

● The F.A. are trying to arrange a match v Belgium.

REMEMBER THE GALLANT SWISS

LET'S spare a thought to little Switzerland whose tremendous performances in taking three points off Rumania made England's World Cup reprieve possible.

Manager Ron Greenwood didn't forget the contribution made by Switzerland. On the day of England's triumph against Hungary he wore the tie of their Football Association.

us to the European Championship Finals and the World Cup Finals. I've fulfilled these terms."

Ron is going to the World Cup and is taking the England team with him. That is a bonus after all the traumas leading to unexpected qualification.

Typical of the man's courage, while 99 per cent of England's fans believed the team had scuppered its chances, Ron Greenwood never gave up hope.

We borrow two lines from England's patriotic battle song "Land Of Hope And Glory" to speed him and his team to Spain for next summer's World Cup Finals.

"God who made thee mighty
Make thee mightier yet..."

'LET'S PLAY HUNGARY AGAIN -IN SPAIN'

WHEN the draw for the World Cup Finals is made in mid-January I hope England are, again, paired with Hungary. And it wouldn't give me too many sleepless nights if we eventually came up against Argentina or Brazil.

The better the opposition — the better England play. It's been proved in our qualifying ties that we raise our game against quality opposition.

I've heard that we don't deserve to be in Spain. That we're "lucky" to be in the Finals.

We beat the group winners Hungary home and away — how many other runners-up did that to the winners of their group? I'll tell you: none.

Okay, we had a few hiccups along the way, but World Cup qualification is all about what you do overall. Aston Villa had their setbacks last season, yet won the title ... because of their overall consistency.

An easy group? I'd have much rather have been in Scotland's group. Since when has two trips

have pulled my leg away from a tackle or two, but I know only one way to play and that's to win.

I think more than anything we overwhelmed Hungary in Budapest and at Wembley. I'd love to face them again in Bilbao or wherever.

They've scored some super goals in their other ties — but I've noticed many have been helped by defensive errors.

When I look back over our up-and-down qualifying group I'd say we deserved to win through.

We shouldn't have lost in Rumania. The referee awarded a dreadful penalty against us towards the end when we were in control of the game.

wood is not as bad as some critics would have you believe.

When he took over, England were at a low ebb. He's guided us to the European Championship and World Cup Finals. Maybe with more teams in these Finals it was easier — but he still did the job.

I'd like to think there could now be a truce between England and the critics. I don't mind criticism of the team, although it upsets me when individuals are singled out.

Two days after we'd qualified I picked up a paper to find crosses over some players' faces and I felt this was wrong.

Some critics can't have much left

wood he has an open mind in this respect.

In the meantime it's a marvellous feeling to be in Spain, especially as Scotland and Northern Ireland are through, too.

From speaking to people over the past fortnight I know how much England's qualification has meant to them and I think we could see a boost to the domestic game over the second half of the season.

Speaking personally, to play in the World Cup Finals would be a dream come true. Corny, but it's true.

I aim to play so well for United that there is no way Ron Greenwood can leave me out of the team — at the end of the season I could have a Championship medal and be heading for Spain ...

Meanwhile, in the League, we travel to Southampton this Saturday



**BRYAN
ROBSON**

Writes for you

behind the Iron Curtain been "easy"?

Sure there was a time when I and just about everyone else thought we'd blown our chances. Flying home from Norway was a nightmare and the thought of not qualifying was on my mind all the week before the Hungary game at Wembley.

I didn't so much think about winning. Just how badly everybody would feel if the worst happened. Life would have been hell and emigrating may have been the only way out!

Sarcastic

After we'd lost in Oslo I was upset by the sarcastic chants from the terraces referring to our defeat. The fans, like the players, were humiliated by the failure.

When the referee blew his whistle at the end of our 1-0 win over the Hungarians I just felt a huge relief that we'd done it.

The supporters were marvellous. Even when the game was quiet they were singing and chanting — it meant so much to the players and I'm glad we repaid the fans with the result they wanted.

Much has been said about Hungary's attitude to the game. I know if the roles had been reversed I wouldn't have given Hungary an easy ride.

Maybe with qualification safe I'd

The group was competitive and tight, with everyone taking surprise points off each other.

Beating Hungary or reaching Spain doesn't make England a great side. But I bet none of the others want England in their section when the draw is made in Madrid. Whatever people here may say about us you won't find anyone abroad hoping to be paired with England.

I'm not saying we'll win the World Cup. What I will say is that in a one-off situation we stand a good chance of beating anyone — and I mean ANYONE.

On current form we'll be lucky if we're seeded. But the Spaniards want the previous winners to be seeded and we must be thankful of any break that comes our way.

Our record under Ron Green-

to say! But it would be a boost if EVERYONE was behind England over the next six or seven months as we prepare for Spain.

Ron Greenwood has some awkward decisions to make. He must keep a team pattern ... he must give experience to some younger players ... yet we obviously don't want to lose to anyone. It would help if everyone really understood our preparations for Spain.

In 1966 only Sir Alf Ramsey seemed to give England any hope of winning the World Cup.

Now, 15 years later, we're no-hopers again. Yet the door is open for a few of our younger players to stake their claim. The manager gave me my chance last year, so maybe one or two others will break through by next June, when the Finals start. If I know Ron Green-

December 5th) to play Saints, who are one of the difficult teams to beat in front of their own fans.

United haven't won at The Dell in the three seasons since gaining promotion and with Kevin Keegan in top form it won't be any easier this time.

People may call Southampton 'Dads Army' but their experienced players are playing well and Saints are nicely placed just behind the clubs at the top of the League.

Join me again in a fortnight in the bumper Christmas issue where my column will take on a slightly different appearance.

Bryan Robson



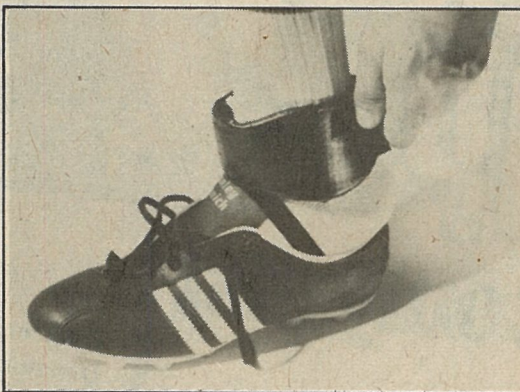
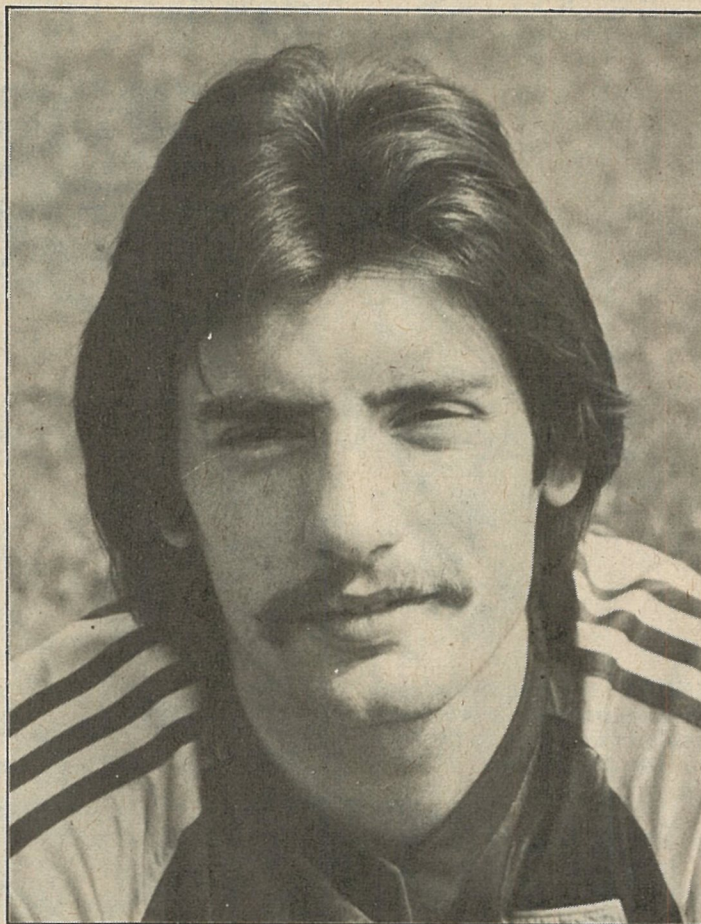
I DON'T PLAY FOR KICKS

Not the Kicks that hurt
says Alan Devonshire
of West Ham and England

Here's something that's going to be of interest to all you footballers – PORTIA ANKLE PROTECTORS.

Like a growing number in the professional game, I wear PORTIA ANKLE

PROTECTORS as insurance against the kind of tackle that gets you rather than the ball. I find they give me added support round the ankles too. I'm sure you'll find they will help your game.



Now here's your chance to help avoid those painful ankle injuries which can so easily occur when your opponent gets his tackle just a little too high.

These revolutionary new ankle protectors can be fitted in seconds and once in position you'll forget you're wearing them.

Enjoy your football more by helping to support and protect vital ankle and Achilles Tendon areas from painful injuries.

PORTIA ANKLE PROTECTORS are on sale in sports shops now, but should you not be able to purchase them at your local sports shop, fill in the order coupon below.

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PORTIA

We will try to send your PORTIA ANKLE PROTECTORS by return, but please allow 21 days for delivery.

Goals galore . . . and here's one of them as Sheffield Wednesday's Andy McCulloch beats Luton's goalkeeper Jake Findlay.



SHOOT looks at the effect three-points-for-a-win has had on our game so far this season and proves . . .

GOALS ARE UP —but only just

CONTRARY to general expectations — and, indeed, certain particular instances since — this season's Football League innovation of "Three-Points-for-a-Win" just hasn't brought about the dramatic flood of goals anticipated to help woo back the fans.

This despite some welcome rushes of blood like that which sparked-off 71 goals in only 18 League games on the evening of October 20.

And this despite a seven-goal stint by Bury; sixes from the like of Luton, Rotherham, and Bradford City; and an apparent glut of fives and fours around.

A comparison taken after the first 11 Saturdays of this season and last — when the First and Second Division clubs had averaged some 13 League games apiece; with the lower Divisions around a couple more — emphasises the point.

In fact, the First and Third Divisions were actually slightly DOWN.

The average goals-per-game tally for the First clocked up 2.61 (compared with 2.79); and the

Third 2.49 (against 2.52).

The biggest increase was for the Fourth Division — up to 2.90 from 2.50 — while the Second also increased to 2.53 from 2.34.

Overall, across the four Divisions, the average goals-per-game is certainly up — but only by the negligible increase of 2.53 to 2.64.

Which, after all the initial hoo-hah, is hardly enough — so far, at any rate — to send the pulses racing. And seems to suggest that those in the minority who felt that the three-point systems might even lead to more defensive play than less — in that, having got those three in their sights, a team might try even more desperately to hold on to that prospect — may have had a point (or three!) in their argument after all.

Much has been made of some

leading clubs scoring less than last term. Teams like Arsenal, that is.

If goals are going to be scored anywhere, then it's surely at home. Yet in their first half-dozen home League games this term The Gunners' goal-tally was only 4-to-2 compared with 9-to-3 a year previously.

Against that, some other sides — mainly, it's true in the lower reaches — have reacted to the new ruling very positively.

In their first seven home Fourth Division games last season, Bury scored 13 goals and conceded 11.

In their first seven in 1981-82, they doubled their goals-for tally to 26 — while, at the same time, reducing the goals-against by almost half to 6. Similarly, Peterborough upped their own goals-rating from 15-8 to 23-5.

By and large, though, the story from the First Division has been far

less encouraging.

Liverpool's first seven home League games have resulted in a tally of 12 goals to 6 — compared with last season's 21-to-6 on the same count.

Forest, similarly, are well down — from 20-7 to 10-4 over the same seven-game home sequence.

Even early table-toppers Manchester United are down from 16-6 to 10-3.

Figures, they say, can be found to prove any case — and they're probably not far wrong.

Again, there are many months of the season yet to be played — months which could radically change the picture.

Nonetheless, with the best will in the world, it must surely be admitted that thus far the three-point experiment — whatever its other merits — hasn't really come up with the goods in respect of extra goals.

And that, surely, was the prime object of the exercise.

	1980-81		1981-82	
	Total Goals	Average Per Game	Total Goals	Average Per Game
Division 1	418	2.79	379	2.61
Division 2	356	2.34	362	2.53
Division 3	474	2.52	445	2.49
Division 4	480	2.50	513	2.90

STARTS TODAY!

The Spurs and Scotland super striker Steve Archibald kicks-off the first of his regular fortnightly columns.

FROM possible relegation candidates to likely honour winners. That's the amazing transformation at Tottenham this season.

After conceding eight goals in our first three League games it's hardly surprising the so-called experts were already tipping us for the drop. Now we are very much in the hunt for a trophy . . . or two.

If Spurs find more consistency at home I see no reason why we can't confidently go for the League.

We've certainly got the right credentials to take Aston Villa's title — the perfect combination of youth and experience, skill and players who are willing to graft for 90 minutes.

Tottenham's great strength is character and team-spirit. Everyone is helping each other, especially the front men. So many other clubs have strikers who play for personal glory and pay the penalty.

At Tottenham that selfishness wouldn't be allowed to happen. It's a luxury teams chasing for honours can't afford.

If our home form matched away results Spurs would be miles ahead of the rest at the top of the First Division.

The boss, Keith Burkinshaw isn't

too concerned with our indifferent displays at White Hart Lane because we have been so successful away.

But it's a problem we have been working on in training. Keith studies the opposition and concentrates on their weaknesses in full scale practice games.

Someone suggested the lack of atmosphere because of the building of the new stand has affected the players at White Hart Lane.

That was true early on, especially when the old stand had been demolished and there was a great empty space. We've learned to adapt now, though.

No! Simply teams come to Tottenham determined to stop us play-

ing. Our F.A. Cup victory last season earned us a reputation which is enough to give opponents extra incentive.

Look at the Champions Villa. They've had a tough time coming to terms with their triumphs.

You're also seeing a different Tottenham this season . . . more aggressive. We still push forward as much as ever, but tend to get back quicker when things break down.

Last season Spurs relied on pure football and teams kicked us off the park. That doesn't happen now.

Spurs have combined their great skill with a bit more steel. We're not the pushovers we were at times.

The change of policy really stems from the Cup-Winners' Cup-tie

against Ajax in Amsterdam.

Keith decided to let them try to break us down, Spurs waited patiently for the right time to attack.

The Burkinshaw plan worked and Spurs won 3-1. We then put another three past Everton at White Hart Lane a few days later.

All successful teams need a top class 'keeper and they don't come much better than Ray Clemence, the England number one.

I always rated Clem, but it wasn't until I saw him at close quarters and played with him that I realised just how good he is.

Apart from his vast experience, Ray is a perfectionist and will not accept second best. He hates losing and had several discussions in the dressing room when he first arrived because he felt certain things weren't right.

Ray's the gaffer at the back and soon sorted out the problems in our defence. Now I defy anyone to suggest the back-four are Tottenham's Achilles heel.

Unfortunately I'm still struggling to rediscover last season's goalscoring form.

I was injured in a pre-season match in Ireland and shouldn't really have played in the Charity Shield. But I did and put myself back several weeks.

Pain Barrier

The injury is at the back of the ankle, deep in the bone and still hurts when I point my toes to strike the ball.

I get into scoring positions and then miscue the ball because my mind is concentrating on the injury. In our League Cup-tie against Wrexham I was clean through and was about to hit the ball home when I sub-consciously lifted my toes slightly to avoid the pain and screwed the ball over the bar.

I've got to come through this pain barrier and learn to live with it.

But I don't want to use my injury as an excuse for missed chances. I've simply got to adapt to the situation.

Thankfully the problem hasn't shaken my confidence. I'm still getting into scoring positions and creating openings.

With a bit more effort I'm sure my goal-touch will return.

Spurs are at home to Coventry City this Saturday (December 5th). I scored two goals against them at White Hart Lane last season, a match Spurs won 4-1.

One will do me this time just so long as Spurs give another of their sparkling performances.

Well, that's the first of my regular SHOOT columns in the net. See you in two week's time . . .

Steve Archibald

'SKILL+STEEL= the new Spurs'



Ray Clemence has made a tremendous difference to the Tottenham back-four since his arrival from European Cup winners Liverpool in the summer.



TIM GALE, an 18-year-old midfielder with Peterborough, should never be found wanting when it comes to power and pace.

The youngster builds up his strength as a farmer's boy during the summer and he has also won honours in athletics, reaching county standard in the javelin and all-England in the 800 metres.

SMIRNOFF's £45,000 sponsorship of the Irish League Championship, for a minimum three-year period, now means that all four major Northern Ireland competitions are backed financially.

The other sponsored domestic tournaments are the Moran's Ulster Cup, Hennessy Gold Cup, and Bass Irish F.A. Cup.

Hibs woo kids

HIBS have hit on the novel idea of encouraging future generations to Easter Road. Youngsters are invited to fill in a quiz in the programme and win free tickets for their schools.

The first quiz was such a success that it will be repeated and another 300 tickets sent to six schools for a home game in December.

Meanwhile, Hearts are encouraging school parties by inviting pupils from a different area to each home game.

Meadowbank Thistle have introduced a new "bonus" for supporters this season. All wives and girlfriends are admitted free.

BERWICK RANGERS concluded their centenary celebrations recently with a midweek friendly against mighty north-eastern neighbours Newcastle United. British Rail, obviously anticipating a large travelling 'Maggie' support, layed on a special 11 coach train with a capacity for almost 500 people.

However, torrential rain must have dampened the enthusiasm of many 'would-be' supporters and only 40 United fans turned up. They were met at Berwick station by just as many policemen who escorted them to Shielfield Park — where they watched their team win 3-2 — and then back again after the match.

The venture must have been a financial disaster for B.R. and was clearly a case of crossed lines.

GOLDEN OLDIE

COWDENBEATH player-manager Andy Rolland is the Scottish League's oldest footballer at 39. The former Dundee United full-back, who has had three spells at Cowdenbeath, is enjoying a new lease of life. After his side's poor start to the season, Andy took over the role of sweeper — a move which resulted in a revival with a run of ten games without defeat. Cowdenbeath are currently celebrating their centenary year and are now contenders for promotion which they narrowly missed last season.



DAVID O'LEARY took most of the Arsenal team to St Augustine's Church, Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire where he married Joy Lewis, 21. The all-star line-up includes Liam Brady, who flew to England from Juventus, Italy to re-unite with his former team-mate. Front row, from left: Mr and Mrs O'Leary, John Hollins, Sammy Nelson, Alf Field, Pat Rice, Pat Jennings. Behind, from left: Terry Neill, Arsenal's manager, Graham Rix, Willie Young (face turned) and Liam Brady.

CRAIG STAYS

INSISTS PAISLEY

THE Sunderland manager Alan Durban recently surprised Bob Paisley with his request to take Craig Johnston to Roker Park — on loan.

Johnston cost Liverpool £650,000 when he signed from Middlesbrough in the summer and Durban's suggestion was turned down flat.

"Craig has a future at Anfield," says Paisley. "We want him to learn our style of football and the only way he'll do that is by staying here."

Avi Cohen, the Israeli international, who cost Liverpool £200,000 when he signed from the Tel Aviv club Maccabi two seasons ago, has gone home for half that figure.



COVENTRY'S transfer listed 'keeper Les Sealey is so keen to get away he's even put his house up for sale before anyone has come in with a bid for him.

Sealey says: "I'll rent a place to live until I can get away. There's nothing to be resolved at Coventry."

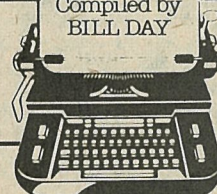
The East London born 'keeper is out of favour after the return of Jim Blyth.

THERE was a time when Everton were known as the Bank of England club because of their big-money signings.

Now they hunt for bargains. Left-back Mark Kearney cost £10,000 from Northern Premier League club Marine. He joins Jim Arnold, Eamonn O'Keefe and John Barton as other non-League recruits.

NEWS DESK

Compiled by
BILL DAY



LENGTHENING dole queues have given League clubs an unexpected bonus.

With so many non-League players now unemployed, League teams are taking the opportunity to give them an extended trial.

The clubs reckon they learn more about the players if they watch them in training for a week, while it gives the youngsters a better chance to impress.

Mansfield are among the clubs to take advantage of this situation. They have already looked at two of Gateshead's unemployed players, Peter Harrison and John McGinley.

Injury destroys star's career

ONE of the saddest tales in Scottish football this season has been the serious injury to Dunfermline Athletic full-back Jim Brown whose playing days are over following an injury while playing against St Johnstone.

Surgeons have had to rebuild his injured knee and Jim, a former Hearts captain who also had a spell with Hibs, will have his left leg in plaster until well after the New Year.

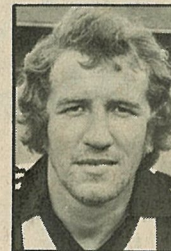
To Spain... with old brigade

ALTHOUGH Ron Greenwood is now being advised to produce a younger squad of players for the World Cup Finals now England have qualified for Spain, one thing is certain: that the goalkeeper will be in his 30's.

Manchester City 'keeper Joe Corrigan emphasises that experience is more important in goalkeeping than in any other position and his words are backed up by the fact that Britain's top 'keepers are all over 30.

Peter Shilton, Ray Clemence, Pat Jennings, Phil Parkes, Jimmy Rimmer and Corrigan are all over the 30 mark and the City star says: "Life begins for a goalkeeper from 27 or 28. That's when he reaches his best, and how long he holds it depends on him."

"People talk about younger players being brought forward for Spain, but Shilton, Clemence, Parkes, Rimmer and myself will be around and still at their peak for the 1986 World Cup, never mind Spain." Midland club.



THE END FOR STUBBS

BRIAN STUBBS' long career with Notts County is over. He has had his contract cancelled by the First Division club's manager, Jimmy Sirrel, but there are no hard feelings.

Stubbs said: "I've been involved in two good promotion runs with County and I feel I've given them some loyal service."

"But I've been out of the side for the past two seasons so it was obvious to me that it was time to move on."

Stubbs made 426 League appearances for Notts County and can be rightly proud of his career with the Midland club.

Change for the better

NEW managerial brooms tend to "sweep clean" to a striking degree in the Football League, especially in the case of clubs with promotion ambitions.

Remarkable evidence of it is thrown up by the fact that in the 12 seasons since the 60's there have actually been 36 cases of clubs which had a new manager in his first season rising from either Division Two, Three, or Four.

That's an incredible average of exactly three such instances per season, and there hasn't been a season at all among those dozen in which at least one club with a new boss in control has not gone up!

Be sure it's destined to happen again this time in one direction or another — at all events prevailing trends point very much in that direction.

Millwall (Peter Anderson), Gillingham (Keith Peacock), Sheffield United (Ian Porterfield, pictured right), Bradford City (Roy McFarland), and Bournemouth (David Webb) are among the clubs which all have a new manager in his first full season in their service, and all are blazing a promotion trail, with



the going-up urge hot upon them.

It makes fascinating reading to study the extraordinary company of clubs which actually have been promoted since the 60's in the first season of a new manager. Here it is:

		Div.	Season
Les Shannon	Blackpool	2	1969-70
Jimmy Frizzell	Oldham Athletic	4	1970-71
Jimmy Sirrell	Notts County	4	1970-71
Alan Ball	Preston N.E.	3	1970-71
John Bond	Bournemouth	4	1970-71
Lawrie McMenemy	Grimsby Town	4	1971-72
Tom McAnearney	Aldershot	4	1972-73
Jack Charlton	Middlesbrough	2	1973-74
Bobby Smith	Bury	4	1973-74
Ron Saunders	Aston Villa	2	1974-75
Gordon Lee	Blackburn Rovers	3	1974-75
Andy Nelson	Charlton Athletic	3	1974-75
Alan Durban	Shrewsbury Town	4	1974-75
Johnny Giles	West Bromwich A.	2	1975-76
John King	Tranmere Rovers	4	1975-76
Sammy Chung	Wolves	2	1976-77
Alan Mulhery	Brighton	3	1976-77
Dave Smith	Mansfield Town	3	1976-77
Terry Venables	Crystal Palace	4	1976-77
Bobby Saxton	Exeter City	4	1976-77
John Docherty	Cambridge United	3	1977-78
Nobby Stiles	Wrexham	3	1977-78
Graham Taylor	Preston N.E.	4	1977-78
John Toshack	Wadford	4	1977-78
Alan Durban	Swansea City	4	1977-78
Graham Turner	Stoke City	2	1978-79
Allan Clarke	Shrewsbury Town	3	1978-79
Dario Gradi	Barnsley	3	1978-79
Ken Knighton	Wimbledon	4	1978-79
Howard Kendall	Sunderland	2	1979-80
George Kerr	Blackburn Rovers	3	1979-80
Alan Buckley	Grimsby Town	3	1979-80
Frank Burrows	Walsall	4	1979-80
Mike Bailey	Portsmouth	4	1979-80
Norman Hunter	Charlton Athletic	3	1980-81
	Barnsley	3	1980-81

GREW MAKES HIS MARK

TONY GODDEN's run of 226 consecutive games came to an end when he was dropped for the match against Spurs at White Hart Lane.

The West Bromwich Albion goalkeeper had previously had an indifferent match against Birmingham City when the local derby ended in a 3-3 draw.

Ironically, Jeff Wealds was also dropped for the next game as Birmingham City boss Jim Smith obviously blamed his 'keeper for conceding three goals.

Godden could now face a spell in the reserves as his replacement Mark Grew, who only a few weeks ago stated in this column that so far as he was concerned he was only marking time this season, had a fine match against Spurs and also in the next against West Ham.

THE amazing fortunes of Aberdeen and Dundee United in the UEFA Cup this season has broken new ground for Scottish football... it was the first time that two tartan teams have progressed to the Third Round of the tournament.

Briefly

● When a person in football of the rank of Jack Charlton says of a player: "He is one of the best professionals I have met in my career," it is a tremendous compliment. The Sheffield Wednesday manager was referring to his centre-forward Andy McCulloch, now 30 years of age, who played for Q.P.R., Cardiff, Oxford and Brentford before joining the South Yorkshire club, for £70,000, in the summer of 1979.

● Centre-half Ken McNaught is still struggling to regain fitness and fight his way back into the Aston Villa side.

McNaught had an exploratory operation on his knee and looked set for a return to action when he had a setback with a calf injury.

● Stirling Albion manager Alex Smith recently dug into his club's coffers for the first time when he splashed out £3,000 on Paul Leetion of Falkirk. There is nothing unusual about this apart from one thing... it was Smith's first ever cash signing since he became manager 12 years ago! Ron Atkinson take heed.

● Waterford's recent English signing Jackie Trainor is having his second spell in the League

of Ireland.

Since he played for the now defunct Cork Hibernians in 1975, Jackie has been to Hong Kong and Finland.

He got off to a bad start with Waterford — breaking his jaw in his first game.

● Manchester United are frequent visitors to Ireland. But Irish supporters of the other Manchester club rarely get a chance to see their heroes in the Emerald Isle.

All will be rectified on Sunday, December 6, when City play Cork United at Turner's Cross. The game is part of a fund-raising bid by the Cork club.

WANTED

CHELSEA'S MIKE FILLERY

MIDFIELDER Mike Fillery (right) must rank as Chelsea's biggest asset as they chase promotion — but the burning question now is: Can they hold on to him?

A number of clubs are showing interest in the former England schoolboy and youth international from Mitcham, West Ham, in fact, made a £200,000 offer for him last season and could be back again.

Chelsea boss John Neal would be sorry to lose him — but money can do an awful lot of talking for a club battling to get out of debt.

Neal wants to keep his top talent. And another reason he wants to keep Fillery is because he just loves to watch him play.

"I never get tired of watching players like Fillery. He's got so many gears to his game. I suppose a lot of players have them but they just don't know how to make use of them.

"Mike can use them all and he is always trying to create something whenever he passes the ball. He rarely wastes one."

Fillery, who made his debut in April, 1979, signed professional for Chelsea in August, 1978.



WOLVES cannot afford to lose £1.5m striker Andy Gray according to his team-mate Kenny Hibbitt.

Hibbitt says: "Andy's still the finest striker in Britain and as far as Wolves are concerned, he's irreplaceable. We need Andy to spearhead a revival at Molineux."

ACE SHOT WIGNELL

MARK WIGNELL, the 18-year-old who pulled the rabbit out of the hat with two goals for Wigan against Chelsea in their shock League Cup win, confesses to having a strange pastime... ferret fancying!!

"It takes my mind off football," he says. "And you can forget about it being an old-man's hobby!"

Ironically Wignell was signed for the Springfield Park club by Chelsea's assistant manager Ian McNeill during his time in the hot-seat at Wigan.



Evans is restless

BIRMINGHAM CITY striker Tony Evans boasts of 16 goals in 21 First Division games. But he still can't win a regular place in the first team.

That leaves Evans moaning: "I can only stand this situation so long. If I cannot gain a regular place with Birmingham I'm hoping my recent record will jog somebody's memory and remind them I have always been a regular scorer."

The 26-year-old Liverpoolian points out: "I got into the team earlier in the season and notched five goals in five games. I feel I have a lot to offer the First Division. If Birmingham don't realise that then hopefully I can move to a club who will appreciate me."

A FAMILIAR footballing face appeared at the Antrim Motor Show, in Northern Ireland.

It was that of none other than Tottenham and England goalkeeper Ray Clemence, who had the honour of performing the opening ceremony at the big event.

EX-LEEDS STARS RE-UNITED. Terry Cooper, the Elland Road left-back in their glory days under Don Revie, signs for Doncaster Rovers

where he teams-up again with Billy Bremner, Rovers' manager and former Leeds and Scotland captain.



JIMMY SIRREL

'One of a rare breed' says his Nottingham rival BRIAN CLOUGH

A MORE unlikely looking football manager it's hard to imagine. And yet Jimmy Sirrel, who took a testimonial match with Notts County recently, is one of the most successful men at his job in the whole of the Football League.

Squat, shuffling and almost squirrel-like in his appearance, Jimmy hardly cuts a dashing figure in keeping with the modern manager. And yet he commands the respect of all who know him — and that means a lot of people.

Jimmy is a true Glaswegian with a sharp and ready wit, an undisguised dislike for fools, and an insatiable appetite for work — and success.

It has always been his avowed intention to take Notts County into Europe — it doesn't matter how long it takes — and he has already gone further along that road than many believed

managers who have done a stint in each of the Four Divisions of the Football League with the same club.

"On the strength of that one fact alone the man deserves, not one, but two testimonials. It's a staggering record and to come from the Fourth to the First with one club must be like turning utter despair into sheer ecstasy," says Clough.

The tributes came flooding in to mark Sirrel's well-deserved testimonial match between Notts County and a Nottingham Forest XI containing old favourites like Archie Gemmill, Kenny Burns, Frankie Gray and Martin O'Neill.

Players like Dave Needham and Don Masson who have served Sirrel in hundreds of matches led the way.

But perhaps the most telling comments came from the person

Like the day Jimmy went to Arsenal for a trial and on the way out of Highbury turned to her and said: "I don't fancy it here in London, do you?" They caught the next train to Glasgow.

In 1949 when Jimmy left Celtic for Bradford, he also got a job with a coal merchant during the summer months — and wasn't paid a penny — yet he was happy simply because he learned to drive in the process.

At Aldershot Cathy was the tea lady, when Jimmy managed Brentford she cleaned the team's kit every week, and that tends to sum up the Sirrel approach.

As Cathy puts it: "He's come from such humble origins and by sheer guts and hard work created something special for thousands to enjoy. Well done my man."

And let's face it, anybody who wins the admiration of Brian Clough is certainly no fool. Well done, indeed, Jimmy Sirrel!

possible.

When he came South to play for Bradford (Park Avenue) Jimmy went straight into the dressing room and told the club's regular wing-half Roy White: "I've come to take your place."

Plain and forthright words which White, who still lives in Bradford, well recalls.

"He didn't get my place, but he played in front of me showing all the characteristics that Scottish footballers are noted for when they first cross the border.

"He was gifted and used the ball well, although he sometimes didn't adapt to the quicker pace of the English game," he says.

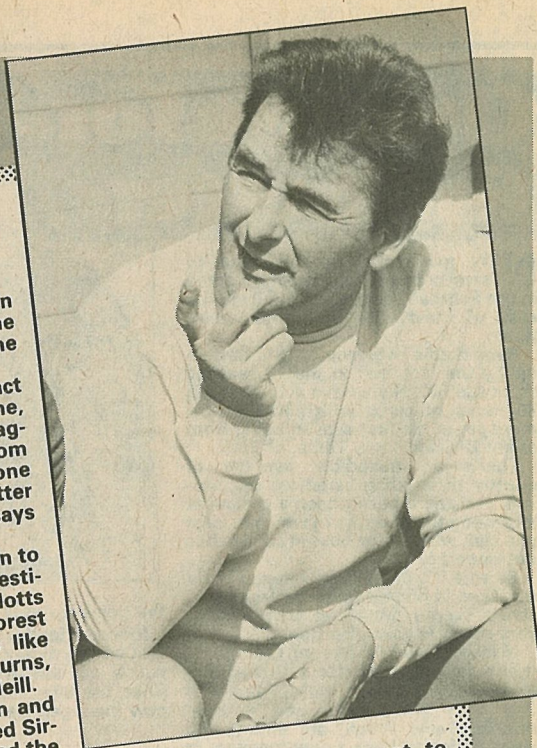
"As a man he hasn't changed down the years. He was canny then and he's canny now. It accounts for his reluctance to pay fancy fees in today's transfer market. It's against his whole style."

The same can hardly be said about Sirrel's "oppo" in Nottingham Brian Clough, who was the first manager to risk a million pounds on a player, yet Cloughie also recognises the contribution made by the little man across the River Trent.

"Jimmy Sirrel is one of that rare — and elite — breed of football

who knows him best of all — Jimmy's wife Cathy.

They've been married 36 years and writing in the testimonial programme Cathy recalled treasured moments of their days together.



Don Masson, still doing a great job for County.

England's Top 3



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1981/82 season, the
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IT'S A WONDERFUL

Hungary 'keeper Meszaros foils England's captain Kevin Keegan. Right: Aston Villa's Tony Morley made an impressive debut when he came on as a substitute.



FOR ENGLAND AND N. IRELAND



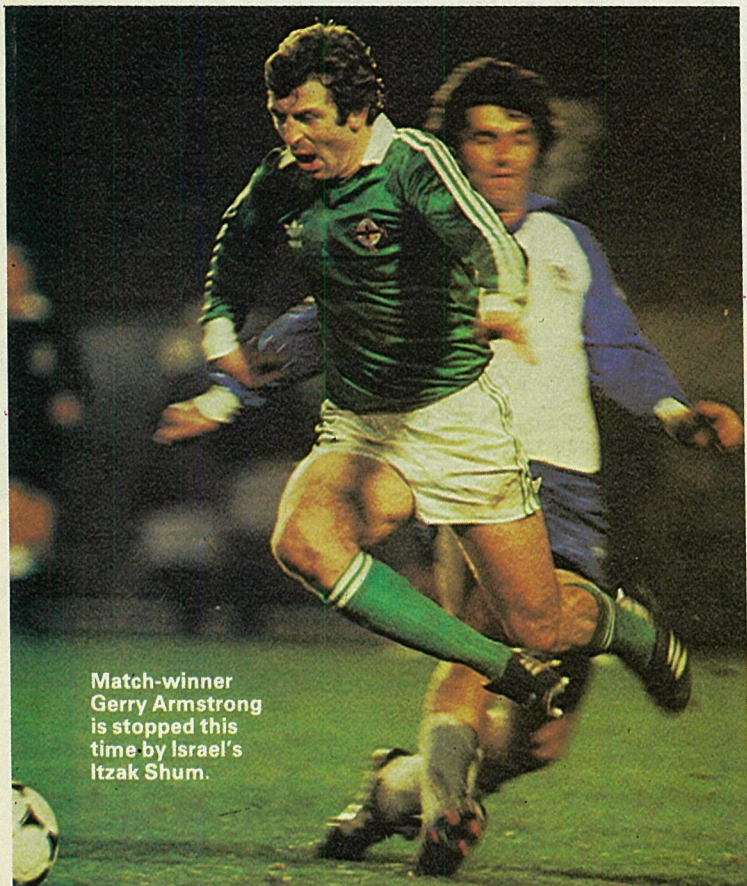
Triumphant Northern Ireland after beating Israel 1-0.

WORLD

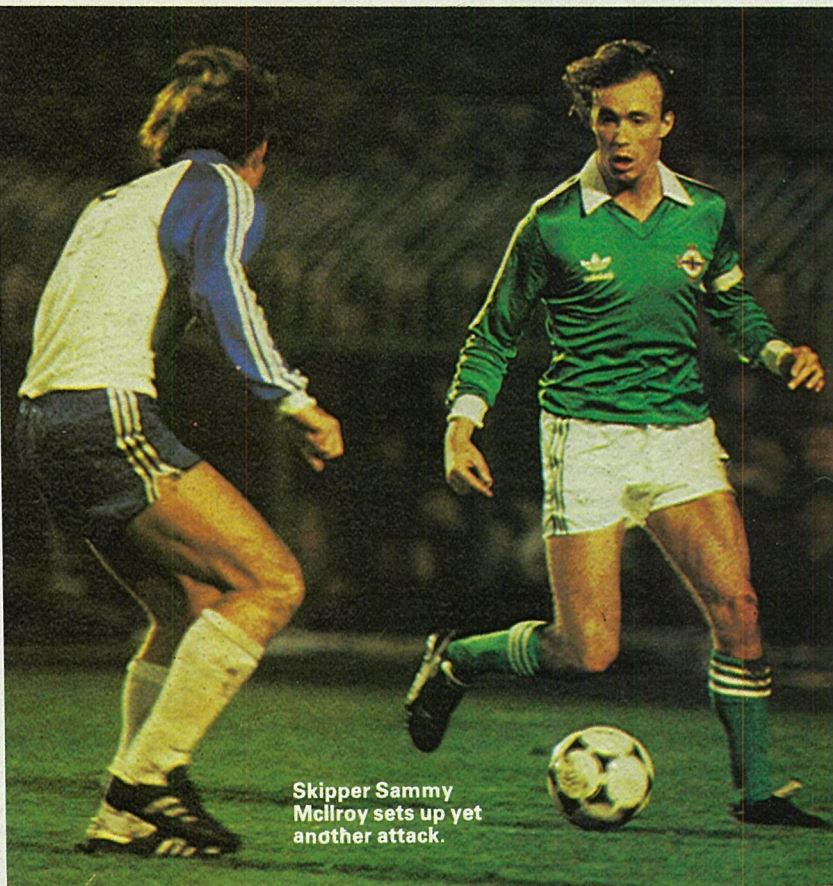
WEDNESDAY, November 18th, 1981 . . . the night the heroes of England and Northern Ireland made the U.K. feel on top of the world . . .



Keegan leads the applause as the England team cheer the Wembley fans who gave them such tremendous support.



Match-winner Gerry Armstrong is stopped this time by Israel's Itzak Shum.



Skipper Sammy McIlroy sets up yet another attack.

SHOOT!

NORTHERN IRELAND

SCOTLAND



THEY'RE THERE . . .

THE draw for the World Cup Finals takes place in Madrid on January 16th. There will be 24 qualifiers. Six groups of four countries play in 12 cities in the first phase.

The winners and runners-up in each group — 12 nations — go forward to the second phase.

Four groups of three will then produce Semi-Finalists for games in Barcelona and Seville on July 8th.

The World Cup Final takes place in Madrid on July 11th.

The 19 qualifiers at the time of going to Press are: England, Scotland, Northern Ireland, Hungary, Russia, Belgium, West Germany, Argentina, Spain, Italy, Poland, Algeria, Brazil, Peru, Chile, Honduras, El Salvador, Austria, Yugoslavia.

WORLD CUP ROUND-UP (EUROPEAN ZONE)

GROUP 1

West Germany, Austria, Bulgaria, Finland, Albania.		
4.6.80	Finland v Bulgaria	0-2
3.9.80	Albania v Finland	2-0
24.9.80	Finland v Austria	0-2
19.10.80	Bulgaria v Albania	2-1
15.11.80	Austria v Albania	5-0
3.12.80	Bulgaria v West Germany	1-3
6.12.80	Albania v Austria	0-1
1.4.81	Albania v West Germany	0-2
29.4.81	West Germany v Austria	2-0
13.5.81	Bulgaria v Finland	4-0
24.5.81	Finland v West Germany	0-4
28.5.81	Austria v Bulgaria	2-0
17.6.81	Austria v Finland	5-1
2.9.81	Finland v Albania	2-1
23.9.81	West Germany v Finland	7-1
14.10.81	Austria v West Germany	1-3
14.10.81	Albania v Bulgaria	0-2
11.11.81	Bulgaria v Austria	0-0
18.11.81	West Germany v Albania	8-0
22.11.81	West Germany v Bulgaria	4-0

GROUP 2

Netherlands, France, Belgium, Eire, Cyprus		
26.3.80	Cyprus v Eire	2-3
10.9.80	Eire v Netherlands	2-1
11.10.80	Cyprus v France	0-7
15.10.80	Eire v Belgium	1-1
28.10.80	France v Eire	2-0
19.11.80	Belgium v Netherlands	1-0
19.11.80	Eire v Cyprus	6-0
20.12.80	Cyprus v Belgium	0-2
18.2.81	Belgium v Cyprus	3-2
21.2.81	Netherlands v Cyprus	3-0
25.3.81	Netherlands v France	1-0
25.3.81	Belgium v Eire	1-0
29.4.81	Cyprus v Netherlands	0-1
29.4.81	France v Belgium	3-2
9.9.81	Netherlands v Eire	2-2
9.9.81	Belgium v France	2-0
14.10.81	Netherlands v Belgium	3-0
14.10.81	Eire v France	3-2
18.11.81	France v Netherlands	2-0
5.12.81	France v Cyprus	

GROUP 3

Czechoslovakia, USSR, Wales, Turkey, Iceland.		
2.6.80	Iceland v Wales	0-4
3.9.80	Iceland v USSR	1-2
24.9.80	Turkey v Iceland	1-3
15.10.80	USSR v Iceland	5-0
15.10.80	Wales v Turkey	4-0
19.11.80	Wales v Czechoslovakia	1-0
3.12.80	Czechoslovakia v Turkey	2-0
25.3.81	Turkey v Wales	0-1
15.4.81	Turkey v Czechoslovakia	0-3
27.5.81	Czechoslovakia v Iceland	6-1
30.5.81	Wales v USSR	0-0
9.9.81	Iceland v Turkey	2-0
9.9.81	Czechoslovakia v Wales	2-0
23.9.81	USSR v Turkey	4-0
23.9.81	Iceland v Czechoslovakia	1-1
7.10.81	Turkey v USSR	0-3
14.10.81	Wales v Iceland	2-2
28.10.81	USSR v Czechoslovakia	2-0
28.11.81	USSR v Wales	3-0
30.11.81	Czechoslovakia v USSR	

GROUP 4

England, Hungary, Switzerland, Rumania, Norway		
10.9.80	England v Norway	4-0
24.9.80	Norway v Rumania	1-1
15.10.80	Rumania v England	2-1
29.10.80	Switzerland v Norway	1-2
19.11.80	England v Switzerland	2-1
28.4.81	Switzerland v Hungary	0-0
29.4.81	England v Rumania	2-2
13.5.81	Hungary v Rumania	1-0
20.5.81	Norway v Hungary	1-2
30.5.81	Switzerland v England	2-1
3.6.81	Rumania v Norway	1-0
6.6.81	Hungary v England	1-3
17.6.81	Norway v Switzerland	1-1
9.9.81	Norway v England	2-1
23.9.81	Rumania v Hungary	0-0
10.10.81	Rumania v Switzerland	1-2
14.10.81	Hungary v Switzerland	3-0
31.10.81	Hungary v Norway	4-1
11.11.81	Switzerland v Rumania	0-0
18.11.81	England v Hungary	1-0

IRISH ECSTASY

AS bullets and bombs cut down innocent victims on the streets of Northern Ireland, a Catholic footballer embraced his protestant manager in a moving, symbolic moment of Irish history.

Gerry Armstrong put his arms round the shoulders of Billy Bingham to salute the greatest night in Northern Irish history — their first appearance in the World Cup Finals since a man named Danny Blanchflower led them to the 1958 tournament.

Armstrong, Northern Ireland's goalscoring hero in their 1-0 victory over Israel at Windsor Park, Belfast, and Billy Bingham, the manager, are off to Spain together.

They have no time for religious differences and the conflict of a troubled land. They are happy to work together to try to plot the downfall of a few national sides at the Finals.

Both have known hard times at club level, but when Armstrong pulls on his Irish shirt and Bingham leads out his men, the meek become bold and a real threat to anyone who doesn't take them seriously next summer.

Pat Jennings, who plays in his first World Cup Finals in 17 years as Northern Ireland's goalkeeper, summed it up perfectly: "I thought I would never get there."

"I have had so many disappointments in my international career but I knew we would never have a better chance of doing it than we had this time."

"I have had some great moments with Tottenham and Arsenal but not much that beats this feeling," says the veteran of 89 international appearances.

'Deserve'

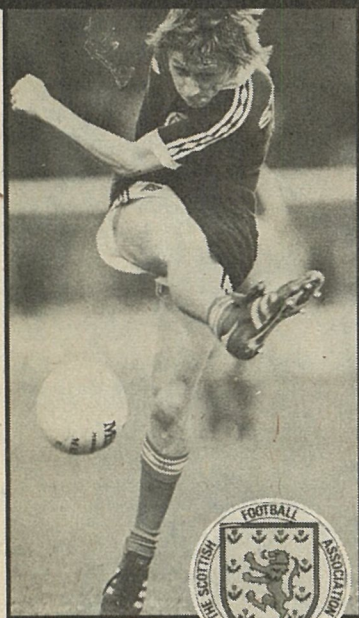
A joyous Billy Bingham says triumphantly: "I feel we deserve to be where we are. It is super for our little province and the players are ecstatic. They have made a new bit of history for our country."

"We are going to enjoy our World Cup."

Catholics, Protestants . . . the footballers of Northern Ireland are working together to bring dignity to a land where the bullet has ruled for too long.



Pat Jennings



Scotland hat-trick

SCOTLAND's goalkeeper Billy Thomson got a rocket from his manager Jock Stein after their 2-1 defeat in Portugal.

But the Scots had already qualified for their third World Cup Finals in a row without any of the fuss and drama that bothered England and Northern Ireland.

Stein's criticism of the St Mirren goalkeeper was a rare moment of anger from the big man in one of Scotland's most impressive World Cup build-ups ever.

Dismal

Scotland, who have not scored a goal in Portugal for 31 years, took only nine minutes to end that dismal spell. Paul Sturrock, the 25-year-old Dundee United striker, scored his first goal in international football.

But the Scots conceded two — a rare hiccup for them en route to Spain.

The qualification of both Scotland and England guarantees a sensational clash between the old enemies at Hampden Park on May 29.



Wales and Eire agony



ARSENAL midfielder star Peter Nicholas (below, right) was backing Russia to beat Czechoslovakia and send Wales to Spain.

"The Russians will do well in Spain. They are superb," said Welsh international Nicholas, who hopes to join his Irish team-mate Pat Jennings at the tournament next summer.

But Wales had to wait and pray that the Russian's would win in Bratislava after being outplayed in their final qualifying game against the Soviet side in Tbilisi. By the time you read this they might have booked their passage.

3-0 was the margin of Russia's victory — and Wales must rely on others after a magnificent World Cup campaign under Mike England's astute management.

The Republic of Ireland need a miracle if their star-studded team are to make the Finals. A 2-0 win for France in Paris over the Netherlands all but ended the Republic's chances of qualifying for Spain.

Wales' 3-0 defeat in Tbilisi rocked their World Cup dreams.

It also meant that the Netherlands, runners-up in the last two World Cup competitions, have failed to qualify.

Cyprus, the Group Two whipping boys, were given no chance of taking a point of France in Paris, the result Eire need to qualify.

Who believes in miracles? Liam Brady and the boys have crossed all their fingers and toes.

But whatever the outcome, we are proud of Wales and the Republic of Ireland and congratulate managers Mike England and Eion Hand, for restoring their nation's pride and passion.



The things they said...

KEVIN KEEGAN, England's captain: "To me there is only one thing in life — success. I'm just pleased it's worked out right in the end."

RON GREENWOOD, England's manager: "I care about football and I want to see British football compared to the best in the world. I don't like it when people say we can't play."

BOBBY ROBSON, Ipswich manager tipped as Greenwood's successor: "If England had lost there would have been a decline, a turn-off of interest. Now there will be a mood of optimism at all levels."

MALCOLM MACDONALD, Fulham's manager: "I want England to find a reliable striker. If we don't we could get egg on our faces."

DON HOWE, England's coach: "We made so many chances — and we missed so many. At World Cup level it's no good creating and then wasting."

BRIAN CLOUGH, Forest's manager and candidate for the England job: "Greenwood's only success as West Ham manager was in knockout competitions — and that is what the World Cup is."

MALCOLM ALLISON, Sporting Lisbon's chief coach: "How the hell did we get so close to messing things up? We must not make those mistakes again."

BILLY BINGHAM, Northern Ireland manager: "In the state this country's in this was a pleasant diversion that gave the sporting community a terrific feeling."

How the Home nations finished

GROUP FOUR

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hungary.....	8	4	2	2	13	8	10
ENGLAND.....	8	4	1	3	13	8	9
Romania.....	8	2	4	2	5	5	8
Switzerland.....	8	2	3	3	9	12	7
Norway.....	8	2	2	4	8	15	6

GROUP SIX

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
SCOTLAND.....	8	4	3	1	9	4	11
N. IRELAND.....	8	3	3	2	6	3	9
Sweden.....	8	3	2	3	7	8	8
Portugal.....	8	3	1	4	8	11	7
Israel.....	8	1	3	4	6	10	5

GROUP THREE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Soviet Union.....	7	6	1	0	19	1	13
WALES.....	8	4	2	2	12	7	10
Czechoslovakia.....	7	4	1	2	14	5	9
Iceland.....	8	2	2	4	10	21	6
Turkey.....	8	0	0	8	1	22	0

GROUP TWO

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Belgium.....	8	5	1	2	12	9	11
REP. IRELAND.....	8	4	2	2	17	11	10
Holland.....	8	4	1	3	11	7	9
France.....	7	4	0	3	16	8	8
Cyprus.....	7	0	0	7	4	25	0

GROUP 5

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Italy, Yugoslavia, Greece, Denmark, Luxembourg.....	10.9.80	Luxembourg v Yugoslavia	0-5				
	27.9.80	Yugoslavia v Denmark	2-1				
	11.10.80	Luxembourg v Italy	0-2				
	15.10.80	Denmark v Greece	0-1				
	1.11.80	Italy v Denmark	2-0				
	15.11.80	Italy v Yugoslavia	2-0				
	19.11.80	Denmark v Luxembourg	4-0				
	6.12.80	Greece v Italy	0-2				
	28.1.81	Greece v Luxembourg	2-0				
	11.3.81	Luxembourg v Greece	0-2				
	29.4.81	Yugoslavia v Greece	5-1				
	1.5.81	Luxembourg v Denmark	1-2				
	3.5.81	Denmark v Italy	3-1				
	9.9.81	Denmark v Yugoslavia	1-2				
	14.10.81	Greece v Denmark	2-3				
	17.10.81	Yugoslavia v Italy	1-1				
	14.11.81	Italy v Greece	1-1				
	21.11.81	Yugoslavia v Luxembourg	5-0				
	29.11.81	Greece v Yugoslavia					
	12.12.81	Italy v Luxembourg					

GROUP 6

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Scotland, Sweden, Portugal, Northern Ireland, Israel.....	26.3.80	Israel v N. Ireland	0-0				
	18.6.80	Sweden v Israel	1-1				
	10.9.80	Sweden v Scotland	0-1				
	15.10.80	N. Ireland v Sweden	3-0				
	15.10.80	Scotland v Portugal	0-0				
	12.11.80	Israel v Sweden	0-0				
	19.11.80	Portugal v N. Ireland	1-0				
	17.12.80	Portugal v Israel	3-0				
	25.2.81	Israel v Scotland	0-1				
	25.3.81	Scotland v N. Ireland	1-1				
	28.4.81	Scotland v Israel	3-1				
	29.4.81	N. Ireland v Portugal	1-0				
	3.6.81	Sweden v N. Ireland	1-0				
	17.6.81	Sweden v Portugal	3-0				
	9.9.81	Scotland v Sweden	2-0				
	14.10.81	Portugal v Sweden	1-2				
	14.10.81	N. Ireland v Scotland	0-0				
	28.10.81	Israel v Portugal	4-1				
	18.11.81	N. Ireland v Israel	1-0				
	18.11.81	Portugal v Scotland	2-1				

GROUP 7

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Poland, East Germany, Malta.....	7.12.80	Malta v Poland	0-2				
	4.4.81	Malta v East Germany	1-2				
	2.5.81	Poland v East Germany	1-0				
	10.10.81	East Germany v Poland	2-3				
	11.11.81	East Germany v Malta	5-1				
	15.11.81	Poland v Malta	6-0				
Malta v Poland (Abandoned after 82 minutes)							

'OUR FINISHING MUST IMPROVE'

FOR sheer tension, playing in the actual World Cup Final next July, against the likes of present Champions Argentina, couldn't possibly compare with England's critical qualifying game at Wembley last month for yours truly.

I've never before been as nervously strung up for 90 long minutes as I was when we played Hungary.

In fact, the entire defence was on edge, even after we got that early Paul Mariner goal, scared that we might make a mistake similar to that by the unfortunate Norman Hunter which led to the Polish goal that blocked England's path to the 1974 Finals.

It was a night for the Thompson memory bank, one that I slot alongside those three memorable European Cup wins with Liverpool.

At long last my dream of playing in the World Cup Finals — the pinnacle of every player's career —



PHIL THOMPSON
My soccer world

is to become a reality, something that at times during our qualifying period looked as remote as touching the moon.

Now that we've been granted our passports to play on the plains of Spain, it's time to hand out "thank you's" to those who have assisted our passage.

The Swiss team, whose victory over Rumania in Bucharest revived our hopes and set the scene for Wembley.

Fabulous

The England fans who gave us such fabulous support at Wembley, cheering every tackle, and inspiring us to go for a win.

Our manager, Ron Greenwood, deserves a special vote for the way he's backed us at every evil twist of Fate. The man's magic.

After a bad defeat, he'd take the blame, and shield us players when we felt we had let him down. He kept our confidence bubbling.

It was reward enough after the Hungary win just to see that beaming grin of satisfaction on Ron's face, to realise we'd helped him achieve one of his greatest ambitions, to beat Hungary — the country that had humiliated England in the 50's — home and away, and in the process qualify the hard way for the World Cup Finals for the first time since 1962.

Because in 1966 we got a free entry as the home nation and in 1970 went as defending Champions.

As I said at the start, the Wembley game was a really nerve-racking experience for me and the rest of the defence because we knew one slip might have presented the Hungarians with the goal that could have spelt disaster.

Kevin Keegan, our captain, made a point of coming across to us in the dressing-room afterwards and saying: "Sorry, lads, we couldn't give you more goals and take the pressure off. You did a great job keeping a clean sheet."

For Kevin it was his last chance to play in the World Cup. He went flat out from first whistle to last and nothing the Hungarians could do — inside or outside the Laws — stopped him.

His split lip and bruises made him look as though he'd done ten rounds with Muhammad Ali!

Kevin is probably one of the few of the so-called "old brigade" who can count on holding his place for



'Alvin Martin was rock steady'

the Finals.

The rest — me included — will have to fight off the challenge from younger players Ron is pledged to try out in the friendly games arranged starting in the New Year.

The likes of Gary Shaw, Glenn Hoddle, Justin Fashanu, Kenny Sansom, Alvin Martin and Tony Morley.

Quite frankly, I was surprised Ron brought in young Alvin for the

Wembley game, as I expected him to prefer Dave Watson, who's been such a great stalwart. But Alvin was rock steady, never gave the ball away, and I'm sure Dave was thrilled for the lad.

Despite Tony Morley not being his usual impressive self with Aston Villa this season, he was electric when he came on as sub for the injured Steve Coppell, and he's a

'England fans inspired us'



real England investment for the future.

We've made hard work of qualifying and Ron is under no illusion there's a lot to do to get the squad into the right shape to battle with better teams than we've faced so far.

Although as a possible seeded country, we'll probably steer clear of meeting one of the big guns at the first stage.

We're determined to take each game as it comes. We'd also prefer not to be ranked amongst the favourites as this would take off a lot of pressure.

At the moment goalscoring is our biggest problem. Our finishing must be improved by a mile. Most defences we'll come across in Spain will be as mean as a man with no pockets.

On a really personal note, I hope I'll be able to take along my wife Margaret and the baby she's expecting at the moment.

Kevin's wife Jean is due to have a baby around World Cup time. So England will have two more supporters. Perhaps even players for the future!

Phil Thompson

McFARLAND'S M1 DASH TO SUCCESS



BRADFORD City's dash up the Fourth Division table this season resembles a motorway journey.

Which isn't surprising considering that manager Roy McFarland and coach Mick Jones spend the first hour and a half of their working day on the M1... plotting their next victory!

The 34-year-old former England centre-half explains: "One of my first jobs after I took over at Valley Parade during the summer was to appoint my old Derby County team-mate Mick Jones as first-team coach.

"As both of us still live in the Midlands and drive up the motorway each day we hit on the idea of whiling away the time on what can be a boring trip by discussing our tactics.

"Each day I drive from Derby and pick up Mick, who lives at Mansfield, at one of the motorway junctions.

'Valuable'

"Then we take it in turns to drive to the ground. Believe me those 'talk-ins' represent one of the most valuable working sessions of the day.

"There's no telephone to disturb our discussions so we can talk at leisure about team matters.

"It's interesting how our views can alter sometimes overnight. Things we have moved towards on our way home can be overturned the following day."

The important thing is that this highly-original system works. With virtually the same team that he inherited from George Mulhall (now manager of Bolton) McFarland has revitalised the Paraders.

Indeed his only signing was himself! And the presence of a man who was one of England's most commanding post-War centre-halves obviously has strengthened the defence.

But McFarland stresses that City are not a one-man band. "Whenever I've had to drop out it hasn't made much difference. The lads have filled in admirably for me.

"Our success has been due to hard work, discipline and enthusiasm. My players believe they are as good as any Fourth Division team and that they won't be out of place in the Third.

"And their marvellous effort in drawing away to mighty Ipswich in the League Cup Third Round (below) won't have done their confidence any harm. And I'd like to stress I wasn't playing that night!"

Master spy Maurice Lindley, sacked by Leeds United recently, provided McFarland with his dossier on Ipswich — and how it worked. It's a pity Leeds didn't act on his advice!

Life looks good for Bradford City. Attendances are well up on last year, the players are happy and generally the displays have been good to watch.

If their managerial team continue to analyse their opponents so successfully the dynamic duo of McFarland and Jones look like achieving their "driving" ambition of getting City promotion at the first attempt.



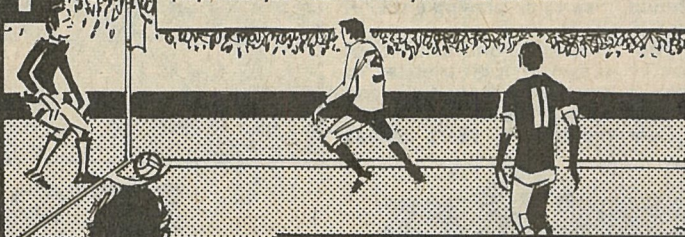
YOU ARE THE REF

compiled by Keith Hackett



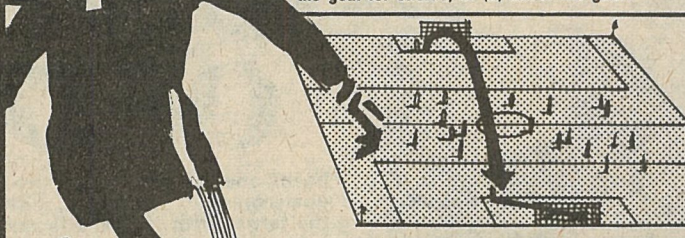
1

At a corner-kick you notice that a defender is some two yards from the ball. Should you (a) allow this to happen or (b) indicate to the player that you want him ten yards from the ball?



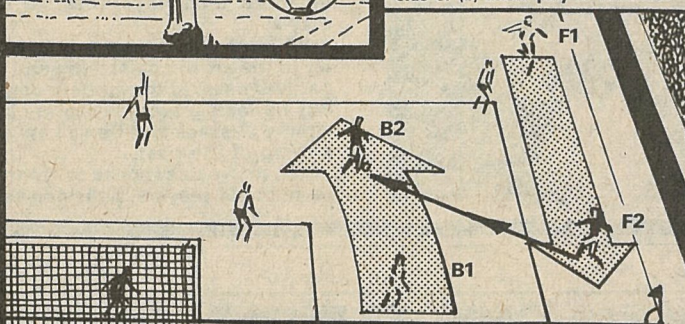
2

The goalkeeper taking a goal-kick kicks the ball directly to a forward standing in his opponent's penalty-area. With only the goalkeeper to beat he shoots and scores a goal. Should you (a) disallow the goal for offside, or (b) allow the goal?



3

The forward in possession of the ball runs from position one to position two. He then plays the ball back to a team member. Having run from position B1 to B2. Should you (a) award an indirect free-kick for offside or (b) allow play to continue?



MATCH POINT

Like millions of others, I was thrilled by England's victory over Hungary at Wembley. From a referee's point of view, such crucial national games bring a great amount of pressure, and I thought French official Msr Konrath had an excellent game. Often the distance travelled takes some while to acclimatise to, but FIFA always take this into account, although there was no problem in this case. The main thing is to remain cool and confident throughout, and the use of yellow and red cards helps to overcome any language difficulties. There is little doubt that being part of such a crucial game is a great thrill for any ref. The adrenalin flows right from the start, and the atmosphere keeps you going when you would normally start to feel tired. I would have loved to have been part of that great game.

ANSWERS

1. Indicate to the player you want him ten yards from the ball (b). 2. The player cannot be offside then he is ruled offside. 3. (a) The goalkeeper taking a goal-kick must remember that a ball directly kicked from out of the goalkeeper's hands is different and the player would have to be alert to spot this one.

DERBY COUNTY'S free-scoring veteran striker Kevin Hector reluctantly admits that his long and illustrious career may be drawing to a close.

"I still feel in great shape and am enjoying myself as much as ever. I have at least another season left but by then I'll be nudging 38, so time is running out really," said Hector.

Then, almost as an aside, he added: "However, barring injuries there's no real reason why I shouldn't carry on playing until I'm 40."

The infectious enthusiasm of Hector is a clear indication as to why he has stayed at the top, even though he is 37 now.

Over the past 15 years he has



IT'S STILL KING KEVIN OF DERBY

been one of the most prolific goalscorers in the game, hitting the target with clinical efficiency.

Yet former England and Leeds United manager Don Revie once told Kevin, then a teenager, that he would never be a goalscorer.

Those words stuck with Hector and he allows himself a wry smile when he recalls that to date he has scored a total of 267 League goals — more than any other current player.

Without doubt Hector is a master in the art of goalscoring and he has few peers in the modern game. But he feels great goalscorers like Jimmy Greaves and Denis Law are a thing of the past.

"So many kids I speak to want to be midfield players, believing that

there is less responsibility and pressure in that position.

"No one can teach a boy to score, it's a natural instinct. It is all a question of being in the right place when a chance presents itself. Obviously you have to have positional sense and you must be sharp inside the box.

"In the average game there are not many goal chances, so when one comes along you've got to do the business," explained Hector.

It all sounds so simple coming from a man who has terrorised some of the best defences around and it is easy to forget that he is in the twilight of his career.

He started back in 1960 with Bradford Park Avenue, now defunct, as a 16-year-old and

quickly gave notice of his promise, scoring 73 goals in two seasons.

Since his transfer to Derby in September, 1966, for £40,000 he has won two League Championship medals, won two England caps in 1973 and reached the Semi-Finals of the European Cup before bowing out unluckily to Juventus.

In two spells at the Baseball Ground he has scored 154 goals in over 450 League games. He left the club in 1978 and after two high-scoring years in the North American Soccer League with Vancouver Whitecaps, he returned to Derby at the start of last season.

Perhaps his biggest admirer, apart from the thousands of Derby supporters who still regard him as King of the Baseball Ground, is Derby boss Colin Addison.

"Kevin is a credit to the game and to himself. He has looked after himself over the years and that is one of the main reasons he is playing today. He is still very quick and he is immensely valuable as far as the youngsters at Derby are concerned.

Battling

"With his experience they learn from him, both during training and in full games," said Addison.

Lately Kevin has been battling to overcome a trapped nerve in his back. But he is on the road to full fitness and is once again wrapped up totally in the fight to get Derby back into the First Division.

"We have had our ups and downs so far this season but have lacked consistency. We have played well against the better sides, but been beaten by the poorer ones in the Division.

"All we need is a run to put us back among the leaders."

Having played in all four Divisions, as well as spending years with Vancouver Whitecaps, Kevin has played with and against some great players. His best team picked from those players is: Shilton, Madeley, Carlos Alberto, Beckenbauer, McFarland, Krol, Charlton, Cruyff, Best, Charles (John), Greaves. Subs: Law and Moore.

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BERWICK'S WORLD CUP PLANS



FRANK Connor was content with his football life as coach to the youngsters at Celtic. Highly-respected in the Scottish game, he had seen many of his young players move into top-flight football.

And his job gave him the chance to travel the world to youth tournaments which loved to have the famous Celtic name among their teams.

But Connor was ambitious. He had belief in his own ability and wanted to be the boss... which is how he has ended up as the driving force behind little Berwick Rangers.

The only English club in the Scottish League are strongly-fancied for a quick return to the First Division they left last season. And nobody doubts that Connor (left) is the main reason for their revival.

He breezed in last season when Berwick were well adrift at the foot of the First Division. He swiftly cleared out many of the side who had put them in that position and brought in new faces who took the club to within a point of survival.

"We would have done it if I had managed to sign a couple of experienced players I wanted," says Connor.

So, relegation in his first season, but nobody blames Connor and he certainly has no regrets about leaving Celtic.

"It can be frustrating because my players are part-timers and I only see them twice a week

for training," he said. "But there is still plenty of work to do promoting the club and encouraging people to watch us. This is a full-time job in every sense of the word."

In everything Connor does at Shielfield, there is a resemblance to the work of the manager who taught him so much — Scotland boss Jock Stein.

"He's simply a tremendous man," says Connor. "He's the best manager around and, if he can't prepare Scotland properly for the World Cup, nobody can."

Connor first became a disciple of Stein in the late 60's when he made special journeys to Celtic's training ground simply to watch.



Eric Tait is club captain at Berwick.

Proudly

And Connor hopes to do the same in the summer when Stein proudly leads Scotland into the World Cup Finals in Spain.

"Some of the world's most famous names will be there, but I don't see any reason why the manager of Berwick shouldn't benefit from meeting and talking with the best managers and coaches.

"I'm as ambitious as anybody, that's why I left the security of Celtic to take this job.

"It's hard, but I get enormous satisfaction from bringing in young players.

"Look at Peter Davidson. He had a bad year with Q.P.R. before returning to Berwick and now he's playing so well that several clubs in England are again watching him.

"I get a kick from helping somebody like Peter play to his true ability."

SHOOT! DUNLOP COMPETITION

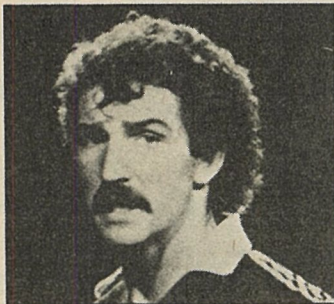
— A week at

Bobby Charlton's Soccer School

(place and date to be advised when the 1982 schedule has been finalised).

FIRST PRIZE

All you have to do is answer the following three questions about one of Scotland's World Cup heroes Graeme Souness...



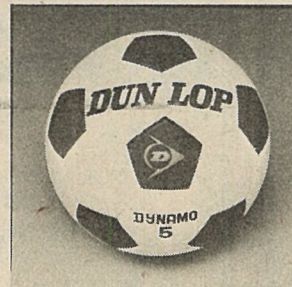
1. Was Graeme's first senior Football League club Arsenal, Spurs or Orient?

2. Before making his first team debut he was transferred to Middlesbrough, Sunderland or Newcastle for just £30,000?

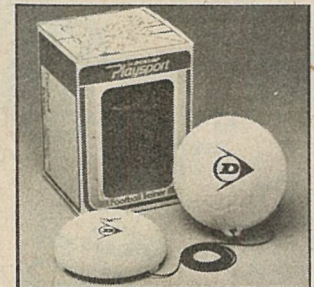
3. Now starring for Liverpool, of course, Graeme made his full Scotland debut in 1975, against East Germany, England or Brazil?

First Prize will be awarded for the correct entry judged to be the neatest with age taken into account. The other prizes will be awarded for the next 25 best attempts in order of merit. First Prize winner will have to have parental consent before the prize is awarded and the winner must be taken to and collected from Bobby Charlton's Soccer School by a responsible adult. The competition is open to readers aged 16 and under in Great Britain, the Republic of Ireland, Channel Isles and Isle of Man, except employees and their families of IPC Magazines Ltd., Dunlop and the printers of SHOOT.
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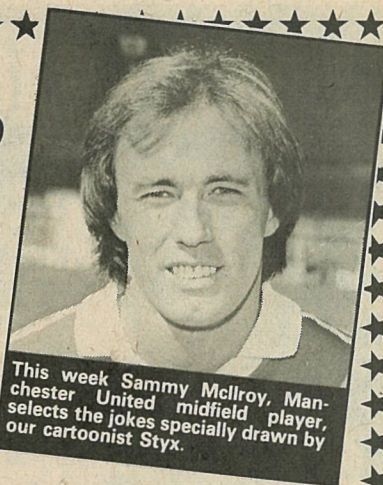
'I'm going to give you a lot more freedom to express your skill and fantastic work-rate, son. Here's a free transfer.'



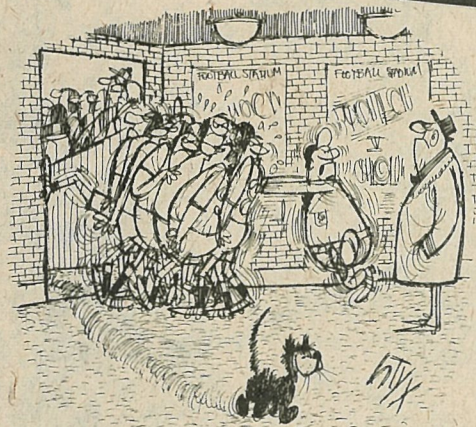
'Him? Oh, that's the manager you have come to replace.'



'Who was the genius who told me before the game that the bigger they are the harder they fall?'



This week Sammy Mellroy, Manchester United midfielder, selects the jokes specially drawn by our cartoonist Styx.



'A black cat, the 13th and they all have the same superstition about not going out first...'

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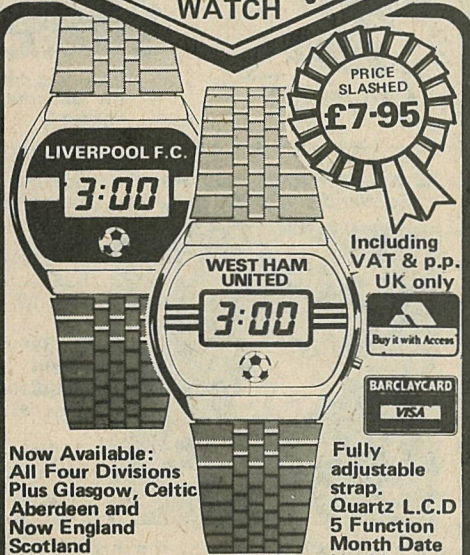
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FLAT out for the Second Division for the first time since 1946-47! That is the bold drive of Newport County manager Len Ashurst, whose calm judgment and driving ambition has sparked a near miracle at once derelict Somerton Park.

His record signing, Jeff Johnson at £60,000 from Sheffield Wednesday, knows at first hand what makes a promotion side from the Third Division — "and, already, this County side has a better defence than Wednesday who gained promotion the season before last," he says.

"There have not been that many good sides in the Third Division during recent seasons... so the best go up. From my experience at

was to try to get him back — but it was too late. I wasn't going to let go of such a bargain!"

Ashurst still feels that way about Johnson... although he admits that, at £60,000, "he was more than we could afford. The point is, however, that I knew Jeff would do exactly what I wanted — hold



NEWPORT'S MIRACLE-MAN



Jeff Johnson

this level, I would say that Newport are good enough.

"I'm looking to create goals from midfield rather than have the side rely on long, hopeful passes. Then we should be a team to watch!"

The Ashurst-Johnson relationship is one of the most unusual in football. To start this season, Ashurst found himself committing his club for a sum that doubled their previous transfer record... and for a player he had once signed for nothing!

"Yes, I've always given his ability the highest rating. I first signed Jeff on 'a free' from Crystal Palace when I was manager at Sheffield Wednesday," says Ashurst.

"I signed him from Palace at the end of the first Malcolm Allison era. One of Terry Venables' first moves when he took over there

the midfield together," he states.

"What I needed was an experienced player to sit in behind them and stop us being caught through the middle. Jeff is doing that perfectly... and I'm looking for goals from him too because he has a terrific shot!"

That only previous Newport excursion into the Second Division was a disaster. After winning promotion in 1939, they had to wait until 1946 because of a certain upheaval called World War Two.

When the football started again, Newport must have believed that the guns were still firing.

They conceded an incredible 133 goals including a 13-0 salvo from Newcastle United which remains the blackest day in the club's history.

But, states manager Ashurst without a qualm, "there is nothing about the Second Division which frightens the Newport of today.

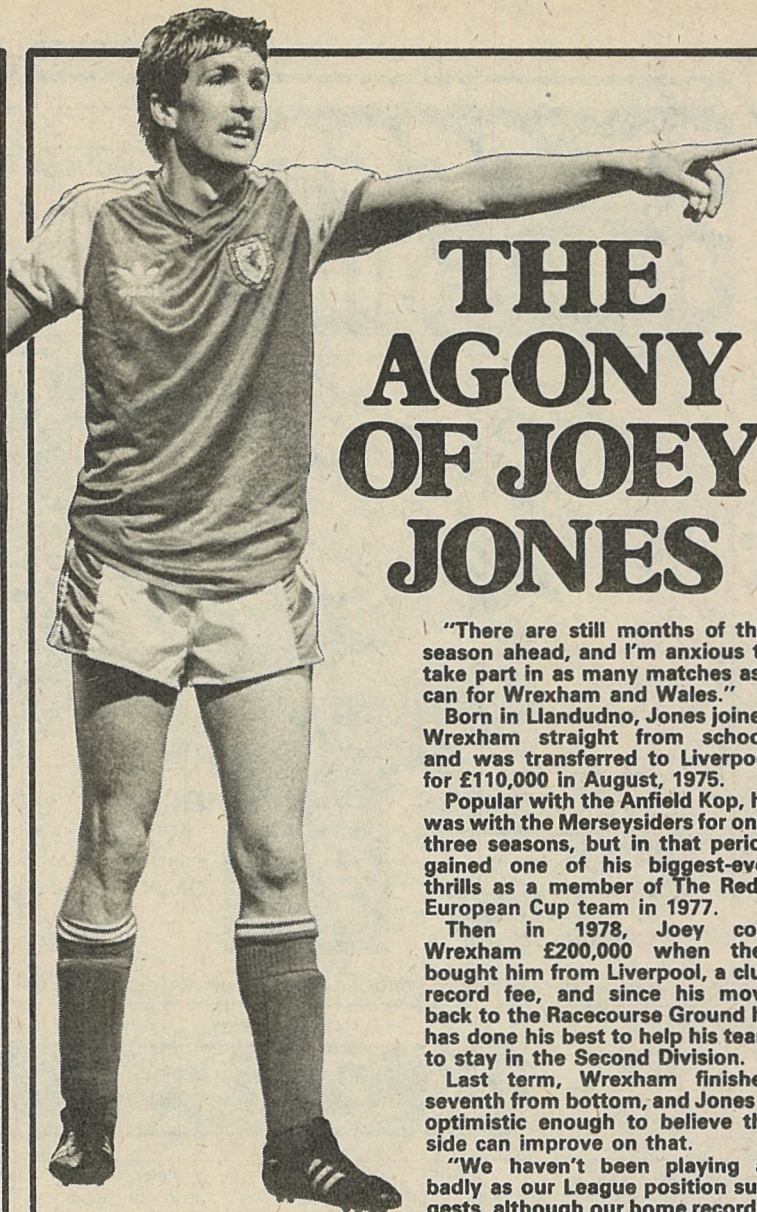
'Fortune'

"Our chairman, Richie Ford, has told our vice-presidents that we want to take promotion just as quickly as possible. It will cost us a fortune in ground improvements but there is no way that we are going to be held back for that reason.

"It isn't easy to be this positive in a recession of so many unemployed but, as a manager, it does me good to hear a chairman talking in those terms. There are enough frightened people in football and the game is only damaged by this outlook.

"I'm not going to say here and now that we will be in the frame at the finish. But young players are maturing, we only sign newcomers of the highest quality and our supporters are showing their faith.

And Ashurst, who was recently moved upstairs in a reshuffle, believes that County can still gain promotion despite their poor start to the season.



THE AGONY OF JOEY JONES

"There are still months of this season ahead, and I'm anxious to take part in as many matches as I can for Wrexham and Wales."

Born in Llandudno, Jones joined Wrexham straight from school, and was transferred to Liverpool for £110,000 in August, 1975.

Popular with the Anfield Kop, he was with the Merseysiders for only three seasons, but in that period gained one of his biggest-ever thrills as a member of The Reds' European Cup team in 1977.

Then in 1978, Joey cost Wrexham £200,000 when they bought him from Liverpool, a club record fee, and since his move back to the Racecourse Ground he has done his best to help his team to stay in the Second Division.

Last term, Wrexham finished seventh from bottom, and Jones is optimistic enough to believe the side can improve on that.

"We haven't been playing as badly as our League position suggests, although our home record is poor and gives the most reason for concern. But we did take a step in the right direction with a win over Grimsby at the Racecourse Ground, which was our first victory in six matches.

'Future'

"All we now need to boost our morale is more success at home in the immediate future."

If Wrexham do reach a respectable League position, without winning promotion, Joey will once again miss the target he has been aiming at for three years — top-flight soccer.

But, philosophically, he says: "I would prefer playing in the First Division, but I get a tremendous amount of pleasure out of the game at any level.

"Just being on the field and facing the opposition is enough. Tackling has always been a strong point in my play, and there's nothing I like better than the challenge of meeting a tricky winger."

So far in his career, Jones has played regularly for Wales, and looks forward to continuing in the international squad this season.

"The present Welsh side is one of the best they have had, and the manager, Mike England, is doing a fine job. He is good at tactics, talks enough to put us in the picture, but doesn't ramble on unnecessarily."

EVER since his transfer from Liverpool to Wrexham, Joey Jones has cherished an ambition for a return to the First Division. But today, his dream seems unlikely to be realised with the Welsh club.

Struggling among the bottom teams in Division Two, Wrexham need all the points they can get — and Jones has felt frustrated that a nagging knee injury has caused him to miss some of the action.

"I damaged ligaments in the first match of the season," says Joey. "But I kept on playing until eventually I was forced to give the knee a rest for three weeks in October and November before coming back for the League Cup-tie against Tottenham. Unfortunately, I was sent off in that game! And I didn't enjoy being on the sidelines."

For Jones, a further spell on the unfit list this term is the last thing he wants, as the Welsh international defender still has painful memories of the lengthy battle he waged last season to achieve peak condition.

"Before the start of the 1980-81 term I had an operation for a groin injury, and after it, I suffered a lot of pain. I wouldn't relish a similar experience, and I'm hoping that my knee doesn't give me any further trouble.

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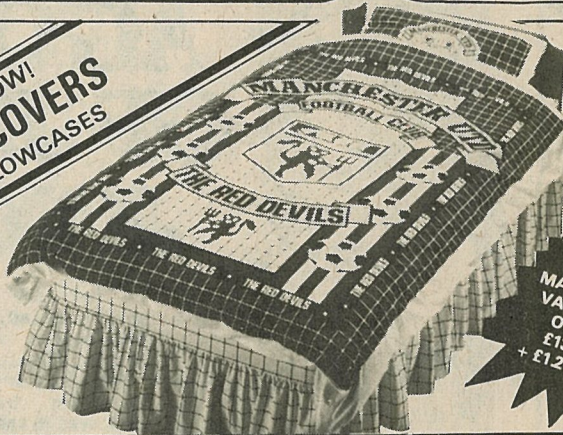
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CLUB SPOTLIGHT



BRIGHTON'S chances of winning the First Division title this season are about as remote as the prospect of Kermit the frog turning red.

And bookmakers would not give them much of a price for lifting the F.A. Cup at Wembley.

The League Cup carpet leading to Wembley in March has been unceremoniously pulled from under them by brash, ambitious Second Division Barnsley, so an outsider could be forgiven for asking why everyone at the Goldstone Ground is smiling these days.

The simple explanation is that Brighton have exceeded all expect-

tations this season after Alan Mullery's sudden departure by gaining a position of respectability in the First Division.

Unless they are afflicted by a disastrous slump in the next few months, there is no reason to doubt that they will finish the season enjoying the highest League position in their history.

No-nonsense Mike Bailey, who captained Wolves to a League Cup Final victory at Wembley in 1974, is bringing vast experience of First Division football to bear on a staff who gain confidence by the match.

After succeeding Alan Mullery, he realised he had to dabble fast in the risk business — the transfer market — and took his life in the

early weeks of his new life at Brighton, Gattling impressed alongside Steve Foster in the defence.

Tony Grealish has not made the impact Bailey expected when he signed him from Luton.

Brighton's demanding fans have done nothing to help the Republic of Ireland midfielder man through a bad patch and his future at the club must be in question unless he recaptures his zest and accuracy of pass.

Just when the fans thought Bailey had completed his shopping spree, he sprang a major surprise by prising Mickey Thomas from Everton.

The Welsh international never settled at Goodison and while the rest of the First Division's managers dithered about whether to make a bid for Thomas, Bailey waltzed in to get his man.

Thomas' arrival has probably ensured that Brighton retain a comfortable mid-table position. He has clearly inspired more consistent performances from Neil McNab, who is as assured on the left of Brighton's midfield as Jimmy Case is on the right.

Good teams have talented play-

BRIGHTON CAN MATCH FOREST

Brighton boss Mike Bailey (top of page) swooped recently to sign Mickey Thomas (left, on Steve Foster's back) from Everton. Ray Stewart of West Ham gets to grips with striker Michael Robinson (right).

Mullery, now manager at Charlton, worked wonders at Brighton — and Mike Bailey, his successor as boss, has carried on the good work.

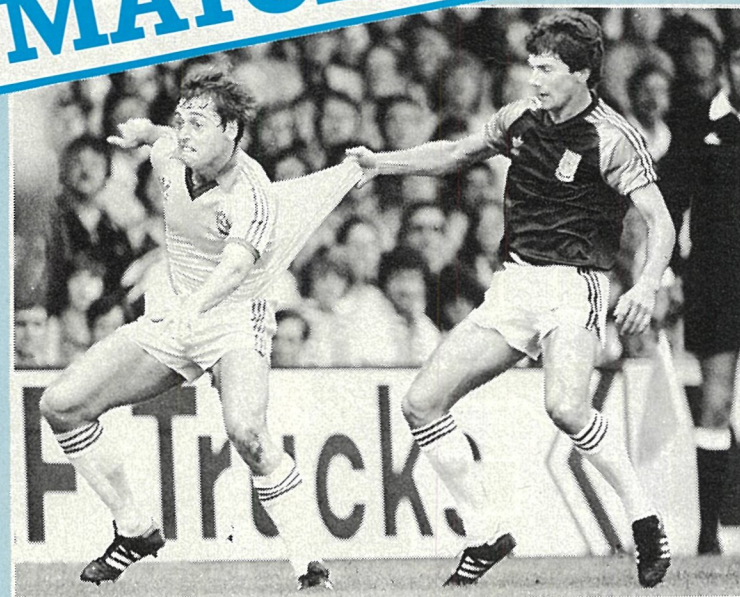
Indeed, the former Wolves captain has capitalised on Mullery's prodigious efforts to lead a seaside town club into the big time.

His biggest problem has been to generate a more determined attitude among players and staff at Brighton. A stranger could be forgiven for believing that the club still languished in the Third Division.

The Goldstone Ground is not impressive when compared with Anfield, Highbury or Villa Park and the backroom staff have taken some convincing that they are now mixing it with the elite.

"We must make sure we are never satisfied," insists Bailey. "At this time it would be all too easy to be complacent. There must always be room for improvement."

A mid-table position by early November silenced critics predicting Brighton's downfall after two years of struggle since winning promotion in 1979.



hands by selling Brighton's prized asset Mark Lawrenson to Liverpool for just under £1 million.

He also dispensed with another Goldstone favourite, Brian Horton, to Luton.

Bailey's buys have been shrewd and profitable for the club. Jimmy Case brought vast experience of the big-time from Liverpool. Don Shanks, the least prestigious of his captures, has applied himself in the same quiet but efficient manner he adopted at Queens Park Rangers to bring much needed stability to Brighton's defence.

Steve Gattling and Sammy Nelson were tempted away from Arsenal where they could not command first team places, and while Nelson was often injured in the

ers through the middle of their line-ups, at centre-forward, centre-half and 'keeper.

Few strikers are more dangerous than Michael Robinson; central defender Steve Foster is a rival for the England centre-half berth; but Graham Moseley has not maintained the consistency of the other two, despite several outstanding performances.

One more star signing, stronger support on the terraces, greater belief in themselves, and there is nothing to stop Brighton setting out to achieve the miracles Nottingham Forest have enjoyed.

Ten years ago few would have given unfashionable Forest much chance of winning the European Cup twice.



NOVEMBER

BACK ROW (left to right): Gary Williams, Gary Stevens, Steve Foster, Gordon Smith, Michael Robinson.
MIDDLE ROW: John Collins (coach), Andy Ritchie, Graham Moseley, Perry Digweed, Gerry Ryan, Mike Yaxley (physio).
FRONT ROW: Jimmy Case, Neil McNab, Mike Bailey (manager), Don Shanks, Tony Grealish.





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West Ham United (Away)

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The mark of a winner

'Three new stars for the Old Firm'

THE people who continually knock our game and complain about everything from the admission cost to the price of pies haven't got much of an audience when they open fire these days.

Quite simply, there has been an awful lot of good, entertaining soccer recently and this upward trend was surely emphasised in Rangers' recent 3-3 draw with our old rivals Celtic at Parkhead.

It was a terrible day with rain lashing down throughout the afternoon, but just under 50,000 fans watched the spectacle and I don't think many complained afterwards about the calibre of football.

Really, it was a wonderful advert for our game and there was several highlights. One was surely the performance of our 19-year-old forward Gordon Dalziel, who was making his Premier Division debut.

He scored one and made two other goals.

Gordon is certainly one for the future... you'll be hearing a lot more of him, believe me.

The youngster moves well with the ball, he gets into dangerous positions and he scored against Celtic with a header in a situation where other players might not even dream of putting their feet — never mind their head.

Startled

He dived full length to get a knock on from Derek Johnstone and get in before Roy Aitken's attempted clearance and his effort shot past the startled Pat Bonner.

The teenager has got off to a great start, but he knows it will be hard work to keep the momentum going.

Not so fortunate in his earlier experiences in the Top Ten is 17-year-old Kenny Black, who took over from yours truly at left-back after I had broken a toe.

Kenny played well enough in his debut as Rangers beat Hibs 2-1 at Easter Road, but, unfortunately, he was booked in that encounter.

A few days later Kenny played against Dundee United at Tannadice where we lost 2-0 and on this occasion I think he managed to get himself in the Guinness Book of

Records. He was ordered off, but the red card was shown because of two bookings.

That means Kenny somehow managed to get himself booked three times in only two games!

Don't imagine, though, that Kenny is a dirty player. His fault is one of inexperience and over-enthusiasm. He will certainly have learned a thing or two after those games.

Getting back to our six-goal thriller against Celtic, I must say I was impressed by the Parkhead side's 18-year-old right-back Davie Moyes, who was standing in for the injured Danny McGrain.

Moyes had a hand in all of Celtic's goals and his overlapping on the wing was straight out of a soccer text book.

Defensive

I know Davie is more at home in a central defensive role, but my SHOOT colleague Danny McGrain had better watch out or the teenager will really stake a claim for the right-back berth if he continues as he did against us.

Dalziel, Black and Moyes are just three of the talented young men you'll be hearing a lot more of in the future.

Those are three very good reasons to the fans and the critics who continually complain about football to eat their words.

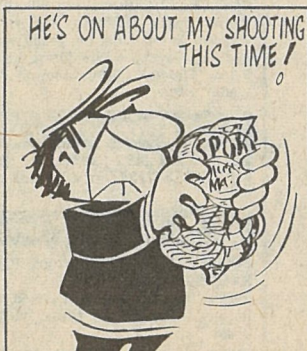
With Scotland's young stars having qualified for the last eight of the UEFA Under-21 Championship, these young men could play a big part in helping their country to further glory.



Celtic youngster Davie Moyes has done a first-class job as stand-in for his absent skipper Danny McGrain. The teenage defender played a big part in the 3-3 Old Firm draw with Rangers at Celtic Park recently.

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CELTIC'S DANNY
McGRAIN NEXT WEEK**

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LINE-UPS... RESULTS

Wednesday, Nov. 11

League Cup

(Third Round)

BLACKBURN (0) 0
NOTTM. FOREST (1) 1 (Fashanu) 14,752
Blackburn: Gennoe, Branagan, Rathbone, Stonehouse, Keeley, Fazackerley, Miller, Burke, Lowey, Garner, Stonehouse.
Nottm. Forest: Shilton, Anderson, Gunn, McGovern, Needham, Aas, Gray, Ward, Fashanu, Proctor, Robertson.

EVERTON (0) 1 (O'Keefe) 14,910
OXFORD (0) 0
Everton: Arnold, Stevens, Bailey, Higgins, Lyons, Lodge, McMahon, O'Keefe, Ferguson, Biley, McBride.
Oxford: Burton, Doyle, Fogg, Jeffrey, Briggs, Shotton, Jones, Foley, Cassells, Thomas, Smithers.

LEICESTER 0
ASTON VILLA 0 19,806
Leicester: Wallington, Williams, Leet, MacDonald, Scott, O'Neill, Lynex, Melrose, Lineker, Wilson, Smith.
A. Villa: Rimmer, Swain, Gibson, Evans, Williams, Mortimer (Blair), Bremner, Shaw, Withe, Cowans, Morley.

Rangers: McCloy, Jardine (McAdam), Black, Forsyth, Jackson, Betts, Cooper, Russell, Johnstone, Redford (Miller), MacDonald.

Friday, November 13

Fourth Division

COLCHESTER (1) 2 (Allinson, Cook) 3,838
SCUNTHORPE (1) 1 (Stewart)

STOCKPORT (1) 2 (Fowler, Sherlock) 2,493
HALIFAX (1) 1 (Allatt)

Saturday, November 14

First Division

MIDDLESBROUGH 0 21,019
SUNDERLAND 0
Middlesbrough: Platt, Nattrass, Bolton, Ross, Baxter, McAndrew, Cochrane, Otto (Hodgson), Woof, Shearer, Thomson.
Sunderland: Siddall, Venison, Munro, Hindmarch, Clarke, Elliott, Ritchie, Bowyer, McCoist, Pickering, Cummins.



Northampton's Wakeley Gage comes out on top in this duel with Manchester City star Martin O'Neill in their League Cup clash.

MANCHESTER CITY (1) 3 McDonald, Tueart 2)
NORTHAMPTON (0) 1 (Mahoney) 21,139
Man. City: Corrigan, Ranson, McDonald, Reid, Bond, Caton, Tueart, Reeves, Francis, Hartford, O'Neill (Hutchison).
Northampton: Poole, Taylor, Saxby, Brady, Carlton, Gage, Coggill, Sandy, Phillips, Mahoney, Saunders.

SUNDERLAND (0) 0
C. PALACE (0) 1 (Cannon) 11,139
Sunderland: Siddall, Munro, Venison, Bowyer, Clarke, Elliott, Arnott, West, Pickering, Cummins, Buckley (Powell).
C. Palace: Barron, Bason, Lovell, Murphy, Cannon, Gilbert, Price, Smillie, Hughes, Langley, Hilaire.

TOTTENHAM (1) 2 (Hodde, Hughton)
WREXHAM (0) 0 24,084
Tottenham: Clemence, Hughton, Miller, Roberts, Hazard, Perryman, Ardiles, Archibald, Galvin, Hodde, Crooks.
Wrexham: Niedzwiecki, Jones, Bater, Dowman, Cegielski, Hill, Hunt, McNeil, Edwards, Vinter, Carrodus.

WIGAN (3) 4 (Wignall 2, Evans, Bradd)
CHELSEA (2) 2 (Bumstead, Fillery) 12,063
Wigan: Tunks, McMahon, Cribley, Wignall, Lloyd, Methven, Sheldon, Barrow, Bradd, Houghton, Evans.
Chelsea: Francis, Wilkins (Droy), Hutchings, Britton, Pates, Chivers, Rhoades-Brown, Bumstead, Lee, Walker, Fillery.

Fourth Division

BLACKPOOL (2) 2 (Noble, Morris) 4,785
PORT VALE (2) 3 (Tartt 2, Chamberlain (N))

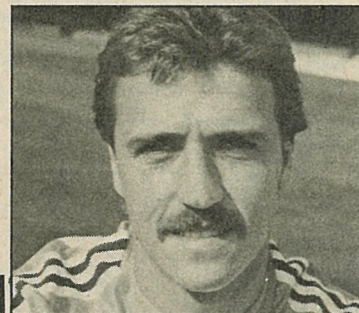
Scottish Premier

DUNDEE UTD (1) 2 (Sturrock, Bannon)
RANGERS (0) 0
Dundee Utd: McAlpine, Holt (Stark), Murray, Gough, Hegarty, Narey, Bannon, McNeil, Kirkwood, Sturrock, Dodds.

WEST BROM (1) 1 (Smith (og)) 15,787
STOKE (2) 2 (Heath, Chapman)
West Brom: Grew, Batson (King), Statham, Whitehead, Wile, Robertson, Jol, Brown, Regis, Owen, Mackenzie.
Stoke: Fox, Evans, Hampton, Dodd, O'Callaghan, Smith, Griffiths, Heath, Chapman, Bracewell, Johnson.

Second Division

BLACKBURN (0) 0 9,862
LUTON (0) 1 (Moss pen)
Blackburn: Gennoe, Branagan, Rathbone, Stonehouse, Keeley (Comstive), Fazackerley, Miller, Burke, Lowey, Garner, Brotherton.
Luton: Aleksic, Stephens, Aizlewood, Horton, Goodyear, Donaghy, Hill, Stein, White, Fuccillo, Moss.



Luton penalty king Dave Moss

DERBY (1) 2 (Buckley, Edwards (og)) 10,956
WREXHAM (0) 1 (Edwards)
Derby: Jones, Coop, Buckley, Powell (S), Sheridan, Powell (B), Emery, Hector, Clayton (Osgood), Swindlehurst, Emsen.
Wrexham: Niedzwiecki, Jones, Bater, Dowman, Cegielski, Ronson, Hunt, McNeil, Edwards, Vinter, Carrodus.

TS...SCORERS...LINE-UPS...RESULT

NEWCASTLE (1) 4 (Wharton, Brown, Varadi 2)
CHARLTON (1) 1 (Madden) 15,200
 Newcastle: Carr, Brownlie, Saunders, Trewick, Carney, Haddock, Brown, Martin, Varadi, Wharton, Waddle.
 Charlton: Johns, Naylor, Ferns, Gritt, McAllister, Phillips, Elliott, Walsh, Hales, Madden (Smith), Robinson.

LEICESTER (0) 0
ORIENT (0) 1 (McNeil) 11,337
 Leicester: Wallington, Williams, Leet, MacDonald, Scott, O'Neill, Lynex, Melrose (Welsh), Lineker, Wilson, Smith.
 Orient: Day, Hughton, Fisher, Taylor (T), Gray, Sussex, Godfrey, Silkman, Taylor (P), Margerrison, McNeil.

NORWICH (1) 2 (Walford, McGuire)
CAMBRIDGE (0) 1 (Fallon) 13,467
 Norwich: Woods, Haylock, Donachie, McGuire, Walford, Watson, Symonds, Muzinic, Jack, Royle, Bennett.
 Cambridge: Webster, Streete, Murray, Taylor, Fallon, O'Neill, Finney, Spriggs, Mayo, Reilly, Gibbins.

OLDHAM (1) 1 (Heaton)
CHELSEA (0) 0 9,773
 Oldham: McDonnell, Sinclair, Ryan, Keegan, Clements, Fletcher, McDonough, Heaton, Steel, Palmer, Atkinson.
 Chelsea: Francis, Wilkins, Hutchings, Britton (Droy), Pates, Chivers, Rhoades-Brown, Bumstead, Lee, Walker, Fillery.

ROTHERHAM (2) 2 (Moore 2)
BARNSELY (1) 4 (Banks 3 (1 pen), Glavin) 18,324

Rotherham: Mountford, Forrest, Breckin, Rhodes, Stancliffe, Green, Townner, Gooding, Moore, Fern (Alexander), Seaman.
 Barnsley: Horn, Joyce, Chambers, Glavin, Banks, McCarthy, Evans, Parker, Aylott, McHale, Barrow-clough.

SHEFF WED (0) 1 (Bannister)
Q.P.R. (2) 3 (Stainrod 3) 17,024
 Sheff Wed: Bolder, Sterland, Williamson, Matthewson, Pickering, Taylor, Megson, Mirocevic (Pearson), Bannister, McCulloch, Curran.
 Q.P.R.: Burrridge, Gregory, Fenwick, Waddock, Howe, Roeder, Micklewhite, Flanagan, Allen (Hazell), Stainrod, Gillard.

SHREWSBURY (1) 2 (Bennett (og), Atkins pen)
BOLTON (0) 0 4,062
 Shrewsbury: Wardle, McLaren, Johnson, Cross, Griffin, Keay, Tong, Dungworth, Atkins, Biggins, Bates.
 Bolton: McDonagh, Whitworth, Bennett, Henry, Jones, Gwoling, Chandler, Kidd (Carter), Hoggan, Cantello, Thompson.

WATFORD 0
CARDIFF 0 13,907
 Watford: Sherwood, Rice, Pritchett (Rostron), Taylor, Terry, Bolton, Callaghan, Blissett, Jenkins, Jackett, Barnes.
 Cardiff: Grotier, Jones, Gilbert, Maddy, Pontin, Bennett (G), Bennett (D), Micallef, Stevens, Hughes, Lewis.

Third Division

BRISTOL CITY (0) 0
SOUTHEND (0) 2 (Cusack pen, Spence) 6,381

CHESTER (0) 0
EXETER (0) 2 (Sparrow, Pratt) 2,125

FULHAM (1) 1 (Brown)
WALSALL (1) 1 (Penn) 6,168

GILLINGHAM (2) 3 (Lee, White 2)
DONCASTER (0) 0 8,189

HUDDERSFIELD (1) 3 (Laverick 2, Hanvey)
SWINDON (0) 0 7,802

LINCOLN (1) 2 (Cunningham, Shipley pen)
CHESTERFIELD (1) 1 (Ridley) 5,878

MILLWALL 0
BRISTOL ROVERS 0 5,970

NEWPORT (0) 0
PLYMOUTH (0) 1 (Sims) 4,427

OXFORD (0) 1 (Foley)
BRENTFORD (1) 2 (Johnson 2 (1 pen)) 5,461



Brentford marksman Gary Johnson

PORTSMOUTH (0) 1 (Hemmerman)
CARLISLE (1) 2 (Robson, Lee) 8,858

READING (1) 1 (Webb)
BURNLEY (0) 1 (Steven) 4,089

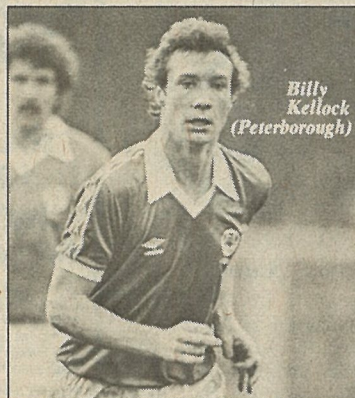
WIMBLEDON (1) 3 (Leslie 2, Bellfield)
PRESTON (2) 2 (Dunn, Bruce) 2,428

Fourth Division

Fourth Division

BLACKPOOL (0) 0
BOURNEMOUTH (1) 3 (Funnell, Crawford, Brignall) 4,665

BURY (2) 3 (Kellock (og), Johnson, Madden)
PETERBOROUGH (1) 1 (Kellock) 6,426



Billy Kellock (Peterborough)



Fulham defender Les Strong comes up with a novel way to halt the Walsall attack at Craven Cottage.

CREWE (1) 1 (Scott)
DARLINGTON (0) 0 1,828

HARTLEPOOL (1) 3 (Newton 2, Hogan)
NORTHAMPTON (0) 1 (Phillips) 1,637

HEREFORD (2) 2 (Phillips, White)
HULL (0) 2 (Whitehurst 2) 2,652

MANSFIELD (1) 4 (Parkinson pen, Bell 2, Morgan)
ROCHDALE (1) 3 (Hilditch 2, Wellings pen) 2,300

PORT VALE (1) 1 (Greenhoff)
ALDRSHOT (0) 0 2,811

TORQUAY (0) 1 (Cooper)
SHEFF UTD (0) 1 (Edwards) 4,962

TRANMERE (0) 1 (Brown)
BRADFORD (1) 1 (Gallagher) 3,218



Rangers full-back Sandy Jardine helps his side to beat St. Mirren 4-1 at Ibrox Park.

YORK 0
WIGAN 0 2,780

Scottish Premier

ABERDEEN (1) 2 (Harrow, Watson)
PARTICK (0) 1 (Clark) 11,000
 Aberdeen: Leighton, Kennedy, McMaster, Cooper, McLeish (Watson), Miller, Strachan, Black (McGhee), Harrow, Simpson, Weir.
 Partick: Rough, Murray, Lapsley, Dunlop, Whittaker, Watson, Park, MacDonald, Johnston (O'Hara), Doyle, Clark.

AIRDRIE (2) 3 (Clark, Flood, Rodger)
HIBERNIAN (1) 1 (Rae) 4,000
 Airdrie: Davidson, McCluskey, Rodger, March, Anderson, Walker, Gordon, McKeown, Clark, Flood, McGuire.
 Hibernian: McArthur, Sneddon, Schaedler, McNamara, Paterson, Flavell, Callachan, Duncan, Rae, McLeod (Rodier), Murray.

DUNDEE (1) 1 (Ferguson)
DUNDEE UNITED (1) 3 (Milne, Sturrock 2) 15,500
 Dundee: Geddes, Barr, Cameron, Fraser, Glennie.



Dundee scorer Iain Ferguson

MacDonald, Mackie, Bell, Ferguson, McGeachie, Murphy.
 Dundee United: McAlpine, Stark, Murray, Gough, Hegarty, Narey, Bannon, Milne, Kirkwood, Sturrock, Dods.

MORTON (0) 1 (Ritchie)
CELTIC (0) 1 (McCluskey) 14,500
 Morton: Baines, Hayes, Holmes, McLaughlin, Orr, Docherty, Cochrane, Ritchie, Slaven, McNeil, Hutchison (Houston).
 Celtic: Bonner, Moyes, Reid, Aitken, McAdam, Sullivan, Provan, Conroy, McGarvey (Nicholas), MacLeod, McCluskey.

RANGERS (1) 4 (Johnstone, Russell, Bett pen, Cooper)

ST. MIRREN (0) 1 (Richardson) 1,800
 Rangers: McCloy, Jardine, Miller, Stevens, Forsyth, Bett, Russell, Redford (Dalziel), Johnstone, Cooper (McKay), MacDonald.
 St. Mirren: Thomson, Beckett, Abercrombie, McCormack, Copland, Fitzpatrick (McAvennie), Stark, Richardson, McEarchran, Sommer, Scanlon.

Scottish First

AYR (4) 4 (Frye 2, Hume, Hendry)
FALKIRK (0) 1 (McIntosh) 2,124

CLYDEBANK (1) 2 (McKeown, Given)
QUEENS PARK (1) 1 (Grant) 904

EAST STIRLING (1) 1 (McCully)
DUMBARTON (1) 1 (Donnelly, pen) 300

HEARTS (1) 1 (Robertson)
DUNFERMLINE (0) 1 (McNaughton) 5,570

MOTHERWELL (0) 2 (Cielland, Rafferty)
KILMARNOCK (0) 1 5,068

QUEEN OF THE SOUTH (0) 3 (Phillips 2, McCann)
ST. JOHNSTONE (1) 3 (Brogan, Morton, Branigan) 1,400

RAITH (1) 2 (Gibson, Ford)
HAMILTON (0) 0 1,000

Scottish Second

COWDENBEATH (1) 2 (Tierney, Forrest)
ALBION (0) 0 400

FORFAR 0
ALLOA 0 980

MEADOWBANK (1) 1 (Hendrie)
ARBROATH (0) 2 (Yuille 2) 200

MONTROSE (0) 0
BERWICK (1) 2 (Lawson, Davidson) 350

STENHOUSEMUIR (0) 0
CLYDE (1) 3 (O'Neill, Nevin, McCutcheon) 500

STIRLING ALBION (2) 5 (Philben, Torrance 2, Colquhoun pen, Leetion)
BRECHIN (0) 0 540

STRANRAER (0) 0
EAST FIFE (0) 3 (Caithness, Scott 2) 300

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This week's Star Letter comes from R. W. Wright, of Auckland, New Zealand, who wins a Special SHOOT T-shirt. He writes.

ROUGH DEAL FOR CARTWRIGHT

HAVING just watched the World Youth Soccer Cup in Sydney I must express my great sympathy for England manager John Cartwright.

I am told that only four members of the squad he took out to Australia were first choice, because the almighty teams of English soccer refused to release some of their players.

This is nothing short of criminal. Surely these top clubs are not so short of players that they cannot spare a young lad for a couple of weeks to play in a tournament second only to the World Cup in prestige.

It is high time these soccer moguls were told where to get off. If a player is wanted for international duty there should be no question of refusing him permission to play for his country.

John Cartwright has done a good job with the limited choice he has at his disposal. If he had been allowed to take his full complement of players I'm sure that England would have progressed further in the competition.

● John Cartwright has had a rough deal from the clubs. Of all the England managerial panel, he has probably done the best job under the circumstances.



Synthetic moans

MANAGERS have found something else to complain about. Their prey is Q.P.R.'s new synthetic pitch.

After having lost they state that Q.P.R. are given an unfair advantage, yet David Pleat (below, the only manager whose team have beaten Q.P.R. at home) praises it.

Funny how managers are muted before the match yet protest and grumble after they have been beaten.

Can't anyone realise that Rangers have tried to put soccer to rights again? The pitch brings out skilful players, of which Q.P.R. have an abundance. Yet managers say we 'cheat' because we encourage skilful, attacking football.

ALEX LAHOOD, DROITWICH.

● Visitors didn't get much joy from Loftus Road last season — on grass.



North-East gloom

YOUR article 'Newcastle dis-united' was excellent. In fact the same could apply equally well to Boro and Sunderland.

Especially where the rift between fans and directors is concerned, which must worsen in the light of performances so far this season.

The North-East's big three are all on record boasting of an excellent crop of youngsters described as money in the bank and a lifeline to the future.

But unless there are signs of a dramatic improvement in each camp the Boro and Sunderland young 'uns will be making their debut in the Second Division.

A. MILLAR, MIDDLESBROUGH.

● What a tragedy for soccer if that happened.

Expensive goal

I'M a ticket holder at Sunderland. I recently travelled to Roker Park for two matches and saw only one goal scored in 180 minutes.

My total outlay in that period was £13.43. Surely this is the reason for falling attendances?

PAUL MIRFIELD, MORPETH.

● It's one reason, although even the successful clubs aren't pulling in the sort of attendances they'd like.

Morley magic

TONY MORLEY'S appearance as substitute for England against Hungary proved just how much the game needs a good old fashioned winger.

I'd love to see more in the League as well as on the international scene. When Tony came on at Wembley he gave us a taste of what he has to offer.

He's quick, can turn a defender either way, is prepared to shoot on sight and provides accurate centres for his teammates.

Tony is the type of player to bring the fans flooding back to League clubs and to regain England's lost international pride.

JOANNE ASHLEY, HENLEY-ON-THAMES.

● If would be a boost if a young player came through between now and Spain and made an impact. It could be Morley.

What hope?

I WAS sorry England qualified for the World Cup Finals. If they can't beat teams like Switzerland and Norway, then what chance do they have against Brazil or West Germany?

They ought to have been drowned by now, but someone threw them a life-jacket.

PAUL O'NEILL, PENCE.

● England did manage to do the double over group winners Hungary, so perhaps there is some hope.



Oldies find the secret

YOUR 'Golden Oldies' feature brought to mind certain dire predictions made by an eminent football medical officer at the end of the 1971/72 season.

Namely, that the elite of our League players would be burnt out by the time they were 28.

They could well be called 'wild predictions' in view of the fact that golden oldies such as Ball, Mills, Latchford, Leighton James, Watson, Gemmill, Hartford, Channon (above), Clemence, Pat Jennings, Shilton and a host of other old campaigners are still posing problems for the youngsters.

Perhaps the human animal learns to adjust to mental and physical pressures in step with advancing age.

The above certainly found the secret!

JAN GORDON, MARTON.

● I wonder how many of today's younger generation will still be going in 15 years?

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Worst Saturday

What has been the worst Saturday for bad-weather postponements in the Football League and Scottish League?

PAUL SPEERS, MANCHESTER

● It was 9th February, 1963, Paul — when 39 of the 46 scheduled games in England, and all 18 in Scotland, were wiped-out through snow and ice.

But the Football League programme alone actually suffered worse on both 12th January and 2nd February of the same year — when only four games each time were completed — though Scotland then fared rather better with eight and four games respectively.

Incidentally, on 5th January of this same "Ice-Age Winter", only 3 of the scheduled 32 Third Round F.A. Cup-ties could be played.

Consecutive games

Who has played the most consecutive full internationals for England?

ABDUL SHUKOOR, MALAYSIA

● Don't think you'd even find anyone world wide to beat Billy Wright's record, Abdul.

Amongst his 105 full internationals, he played 70 on the trot — starting with a 2-2 draw against France at Highbury on 3rd October, 1951, and ending with an 8-1 win over U.S.A. in Los Angeles on 28th May, 1959.

Leeds record

I know Brian Clough wasn't manager of Leeds for very long, but what was his record there?

M. J. ASQUEZ, GIBRALTAR

● Well, hardly up to his general reputation.

Clough-time at Elland Road — just from 31st July to 12th September, 1974 — saw Leeds with an early-season First Division record which read... Played six; Won one; Drawn two; Lost three; Goals four-to-eight; Points four.

SHORT PASSES

● West Ham have won the F.A. Cup three times (1964, 1975, and 1980); and were beaten Finalists in 1923. (DAVID SHIELDS, London, E.16)

● Kevin Hector gained only two full England caps — both at Wembley, and both coming on as sub — against Poland and Italy in October and November, 1973. (TRACIE RABBITT, Holland)

● Peterborough's best-ever run in the F.A. Cup was in reaching the Sixth Round in 1964-65. (STEPHEN CHIVERS, Huntingdon)

Short Passes are replies to readers' letters.

Problems for Aberdeen and Morton

ABERDEEN'S fiery manager Alex Ferguson was angry. His team had just lost a vital League match to Champions Celtic at Parkhead and he was in no mood to protect reputations.

The Pittodrie manager snapped:

"Mark McGhee missed a hat-trick of chances out there and you cannot afford to do that against Celtic in this League and hope to survive..."

Striker Mark McGhee had indeed passed up three opportunities against Celtic and he must have left Parkhead wondering what a difference a year can make in a goalscorer's career.

Last season he was being tipped as a World Cup possible for Scotland. There were rumours that Jock Stein was ready to select him for the match against Israel in Tel Aviv and certainly the gifted McGhee was pressing his claims fairly solidly at the time.

His fellow professionals voted him their Player of the Year, but by the end of the season Aberdeen lost their League crown to Celtic, they were beaten in the League Cup by Dundee and a goal from Morton's Andy Ritchie ended their brief stay in the Scottish Cup.

McGhee's form dipped in the general decline and he has had the

Alex Ferguson has played several players alongside the former Bristol City, Morton and Newcastle star who started his career as an outside-right. Walker McCall, Derek Hamilton, Andy Harrow and John Hewitt are just four players who have teamed up with McGhee.

It seems The Dons have the balance right on the flanks in the shape of Gordon Strachan and Peter Weir and the midfield looks solid enough while Alex McLeish and Willie Miller are as reliable as they come in the middle of defence.

Things, though, appear to be

Striker McGhee under fire

unenviable task of doing it all again in the present season. Thoughts of international soccer are pushed to the background.

"Okay, it wasn't a great season for us last time out," says McGhee, "but no one should write us off."

"We'll be there at the end of the day in the race for the title and we've also got our eye on the Scottish Cup."

McGhee has accepted the main scoring burden of the Pittodrie side since the departure of Steve Archibald to Spurs before the beginning of last season.

To be fair to McGhee, he hasn't had the best preparation in his aim for consistency in the firing line.

falling down in the centre of the attack and that is strange considering that boss Fergie was an old fashioned striker in his playing days.

McGhee says: "Soccer is all about hard work, dedication and application. I've got my sleeves rolled up, I can assure you. Hopefully things will come right."

Mark McGhee may miss the World Cup Finals, but the Pittodrie penalty-box is in no mood to accept second best on the domestic scene.

In that mood, he can be a very effective and dangerous front man. Even fiery Fergie would admit to that...

HARD-UP Morton, who were forced to sell mid-field dynamo Bobby Thomson to Middlesbrough this season because of their grave financial situation, are now trying to ward off English clubs interested in Under-21 centre-back Joe McLaughlin.

Cappielow manager Benny Rooney has no doubt about the youngster's ability.

"There's no argument... Joe McLaughlin is the best centre-half in Scotland," he says.

"Obviously we might have to sell if someone made me an offer I couldn't possibly refuse, but until that day comes I'm delighted to have him lining up alongside Neil Orr in the heart of my defence."

"He's only been in the first team for two years, but his progress has been quite remarkable."

Ironically, the 21-year-old, no-nonsense defender got his first team chance at Cappielow because of a strange injury to former skipper Davie Hayes.

The right-back recalls: "We were playing Partick Thistle at Greenock and our goalkeeper Roy Baines gave me a lift to the ground in his car."

"Just outside Cappielow, I fell coming out of his car, cut my hand and wrist on some barbed wire and that was me out of that game."

"Young Joe was told to fill in at right-back and even though he was playing out of position he immediately showed what he could do."

Rooney reveals that Terry Venables made an enquiry for McLaughlin shortly before he left Crystal Palace for Queens Park Rangers. So far no other English manager has made a concrete move for the towering McLaughlin.

But the rugged back-four man is

so determined to make his way to the top in football that he has even taken a drop in cash.

Rooney says: "He has given up a good job as a plumber to become a full-time player with us. It means there will be less cash coming in each week, but it shows the right attitude."

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BIG MATCHES OF THE DAY

Saturday, December 5th 1981

MAN. CITY v VILLA

THESE two clubs begin their second century of Football League clashes on Saturday with Villa confident after six games without defeat against the City.

Villa were last beaten by City 2-0 at Villa Park in December, 1977, Peter Barnes and Brian Kidd getting the goals. Since then they have drawn four and Villa have won twice.

At this venue last season they drew 2-2 with City scoring both of their goals in the last seven minutes.

NOTTM. FOREST v LIVERPOOL

THERE have been some close tussles between these clubs in recent years and in only one of their last 11 League meetings at the City Ground has either side been able to score more than a single goal. That was when Liverpool won 3-2 in October, 1971. As for Forest, they have scored only one goal in their last six League meetings with Liverpool — two seasons ago when a goal by Garry Birtles earned them a victory at Anfield.

The 17 post-War League meetings at the City ground have resulted in five wins for Liverpool, five for Forest.

W.B.A. v WOLVES

SINCE Wolves returned to the First Division in 1977 all four of their visits to The Hawthorns have resulted in draws. Indeed, if one looks at all of their meetings during this period at home and away the clubs are level pegging with one victory each and six games drawn.

TOTTENHAM v COVENTRY CITY

GLENN Hoddle must be looking forward to Coventry City's visit on Saturday for he has not failed to score in the last three meetings with The Sky Blues at White Hart Lane and has hit a total of six goals.

Coventry have won twice in 21 previous visits, the last time five years ago in October, 1976 when Donal Murphy got the game's only goal.

Tottenham's most convincing win over Coventry at White Hart Lane was 4-0 in August, 1948 when Freddie Cox, Len Duquemin (2), and Ernie Jones were the scorers.

SOUTHAMPTON v MAN. UTD.

SAINTS 1-0 win over Manchester United at The Dell last March, thanks to a goal by Kevin Keegan, was their first victory over these particular opponents in a run of 15 League games!

Now that they have broken this jinx they will naturally be hoping for another win on Saturday. However, Saints have not scored more than a single goal in any of their last dozen League games with United whose biggest win at The Dell was 5-2 in November, 1971 when George Best got a hat-trick.

SHAUN Elliott has played in three positions for Sunderland this season and has eventually settled in the role he claims suits him best — in the middle of the back-four.

When Elliott returned to the Sunderland line-up in September, after missing the start of the term through his commitment to American club Seattle Sounders, Roker boss Alan Durban selected him for a midfield spot against Arsenal at Highbury.

And Shaun's comments regarding his contribution to Sunderland's midfield this season are honest. He says: "In this position, my form has been the sort that leaves room for improvement.

'Comfortable'

"It's purely a personal thing, but I reckon I'm a lot more comfortable at the back and seem to have fewer bad games there.

"Since my midfield matches I've appeared at left-back and at centre-half, and playing in the middle of the defence comes most naturally to me."

And Elliott's view that he is a natural central-defender was endorsed by Ipswich manager Bobby Robson, after Shaun had made his international debut in this position for the England "B" side under the charge of Robson

last year.

The Town boss said: "I was very impressed with the lad. He now needs regular First Division football in the back-four, where I believe he has a real future at international level."

Elliott is ambitious to gain a full England cap but refuses to count on being an automatic selection for the Roker club.

"I'm determined to launch an all-out effort to be included in an England squad, though to do this I've to keep my place in the first team at Sunderland.

"This isn't easy — I can't afford to be complacent about it. Last

season, Rob Hindmarch was centre-half and captain at Roker and showing consistent form, but he lost his place, so there is no way I'll sit back and relax."

For Elliott, his summer stint in Seattle proved to be enjoyable, though it means he has to cope with the strain of year-round football.

And he says: "I'll be able to judge after Christmas whether or not my American experience will blunt my zest for the game in the League this season.

"My contract with Sunderland was up last summer, and I must admit that the chance of joining

Seattle influenced me to give Sunderland another year.

"In America, everything was fresh and new, and I've no regrets about the time I spent there."

Shaun was a key-man in the Sunderland team that fought off relegation last term, and is under no illusions about the task that lies ahead as the Weariders face another struggle to pull away from the wrong end of the table.

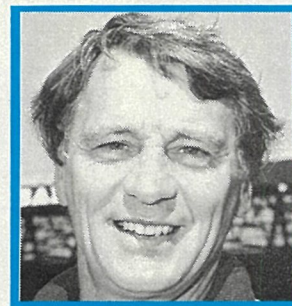
"Obviously, we have to start picking up some points quickly.

"We'll just have to keep looking for more goals and try to maintain the improvement of recent weeks.

"I'm an ambitious player and I want Sunderland to do well — what is good for the club is good for me."

Sunderland's SHAUN ELLIOTT

'A future England star'



**claims his
'B' international boss
Bobby Robson**



Elliott played in midfield against Arsenal, but prefers it in the back-four.

DUNDEE UTD.



CLUB SPOTLIGHT

THE usual problem concerning a Scottish club that is continually in the spotlight and attracting envious glances from other big money teams is how to hold on to their star players.

Dundee United do not have that problem. Instead, their main worry is how to keep their manager!

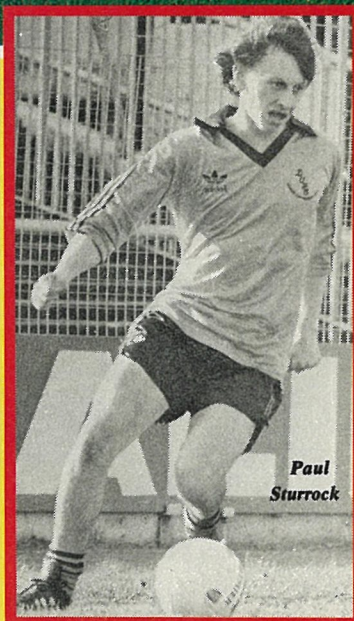
Jim McLean, known as 'Mr Perfection' around Tannadice because of his high quality demands, will complete his contract as United boss at the end of the season.

And, by his own admission, other teams have been sniffing around showing more than a passing interest.

Hearts, for instance, wanted to lure him away from Tannadice at the start of the season but they were refused permission to even speak with McLean.

The Tynecastle men now have Englishman Tony Ford in charge on a one-year contract and speculation in Scotland suggests that the Edinburgh men are likely to make another lucrative offer for McLean around about May.

"I hear the talk," says McLean,



Paul Sturrock

"but the only thing that concerns me at the moment is doing a good job for Dundee United."

McLean is in no rush to leave his beloved Dundee United, the team he has carefully raised from the arena of no-hopers and also-rans into a fine Cup-winning unit.

English sides, though, have noted that the Dundee United team which walloped West German giants Borussia Moen-

chengladbach 5-0 at Tannadice in the UEFA Cup recently cost just over £200,000 to put together . . . and £165,000 of that total was for one player, Eamonn Bannon from Chelsea two years ago.

McLean believes in bringing his own talent through the excellent Tannadice nursery and already the likes of Paul Sturrock, David Narey, Ralph Milne, Richard Gough and Davie Dodds are brightening up the Scottish scene with their flair and attractive, attacking play.

The United boss may also grudgingly admit to be a workaholic. He thinks nothing of spending 12 hours a day at Tannadice.

He also drives a bus for football-

BACK ROW (left to right): Andrew Graham, Davie Dodds, Richard Gough, John Gardiner, David Narey, Willie Pettigrew (now Hearts), Hamish McAlpine.

MIDDLE ROW: Ralph Milne, John Holt, Derek Stark, Joe Ward, Iain Phillip, Ian Gibson.

FRONT ROW: Frank Kopel, Eamonn Bannon, Billy Kirkwood, Paul Hegarty, Paul Sturrock, Derek Murray, Graeme Payne.

crazy kids in the Dundee area to take them to parks where he passes on some hints and advice.

McLean's amazing appetite for work and success has made Dundee United one of the most entertaining teams in the country but he admits candidly: "I don't suppose I will be entirely satisfied.

"Every day presents a new problem, another hurdle. I've been called a perfectionist. I don't know about that, but I do know that I want to see a team out there on the park that gives the fans value for money."

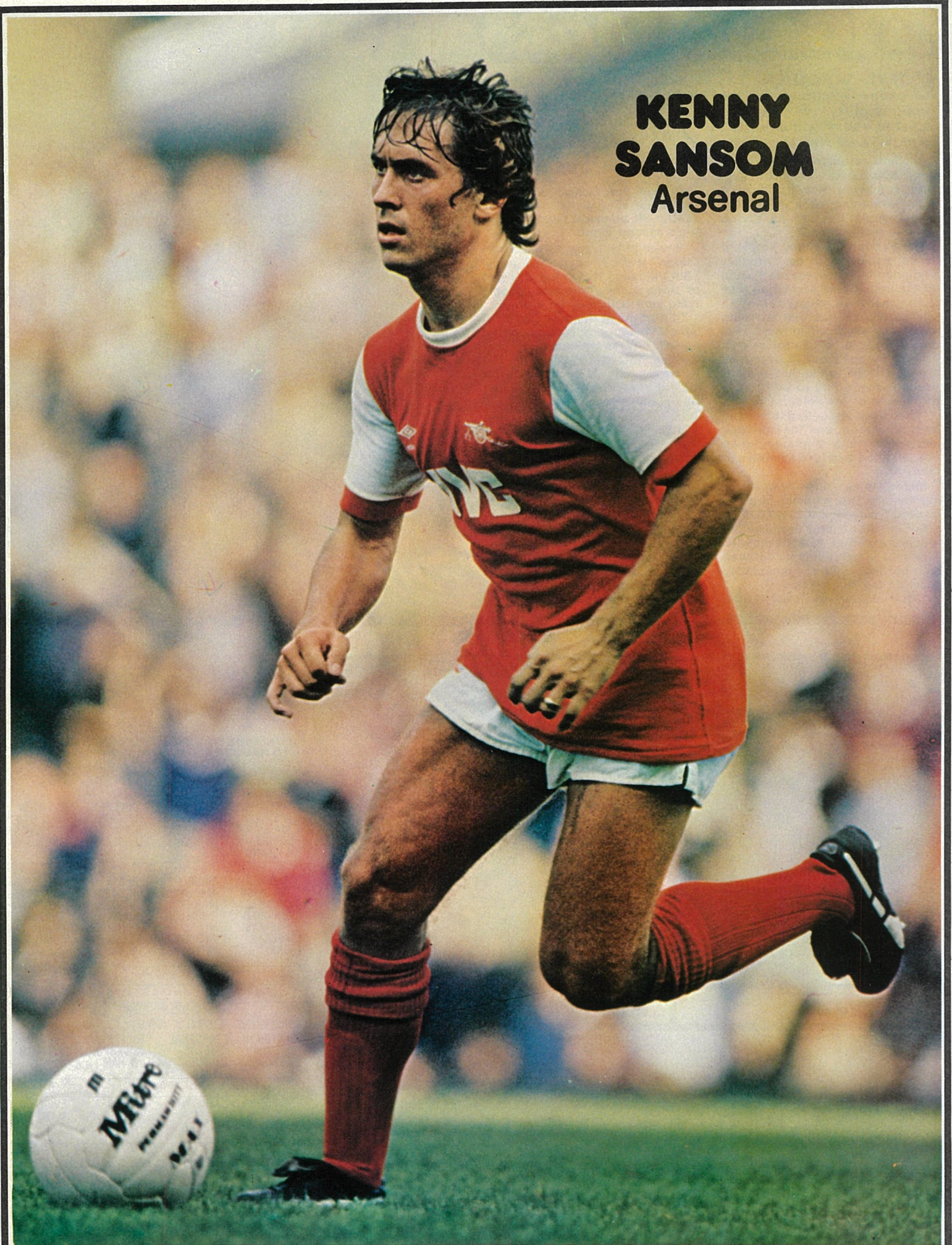
Celtic's flying start to the season has certainly made them overwhelming favourites to retain their Scottish League Championship, but the Cup kings from Tannadice Park certainly won't give up without a fight. They've made a solid start and are handily placed behind Celtic and Aberdeen! A few more good results could yet take the title to Dundee United.



Manager Jim McLean

SHOOT!

**KENNY
SANSOM**
Arsenal



SHOOT!

'TIGER' McMAHON

STEVE McMAHON has been revelling in the responsibility of running Everton's midfield since the departure of Asa Hartford.

Hartford returned to his former club, Manchester City, in September leaving Howard Kendall with something of a headache. Where could he turn to find a suitable replacement?

The Everton boss was prepared to be patient and see whether anybody on his current staff could fill the void. Steve McMahon rose to the challenge magnificently.

"Nobody told me that anything more was expected of me," says the 20-year-old. "As a professional I think you just react to situations. It was obvious to me that without Asa we were going to be short in the middle of the field."

"I had been struggling to find my form all season, and the manager had shown faith in me, so when Asa left I had an added incentive to repay him."

McMahon has since been showing the form that won him England Under-21 selection last season.

But a season that promised so much crashed at West Bromwich Albion in March when he suffered an horrific injury, completely severing leg ligaments.

"After making my debut at Sun-

derland, I missed only one League game until that injury.

"It was a long, hard fight to be fit, but I never had any doubts about playing again."

Critics

Kendall put McMahon back in the senior side at the start of the season. He played at Leeds in Everton's second game.

"I was fairly happy with the way things went," says McMahon. "But following that game, and two or three more afterwards, people were very critical of my play."

"It hurt me at the time, but if I'm honest I suppose I was kidding myself. I wasn't playing my best football."

"Fortunately Mr Kendall only left me out once. The rest of the time I was allowed to feel my way back in."

"I think he knew I needed first-team football. Playing in the reserves could have held me back."

Happily enough, McMahon's recovery appears to be complete. He has been turning in some tigerish performances that have been a feature of Everton's revival.

"As a unit we are playing well again. It took us a few weeks to get sorted out, but now we're rolling," says McMahon.



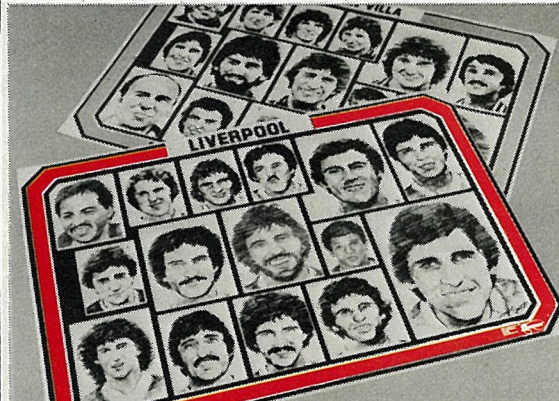
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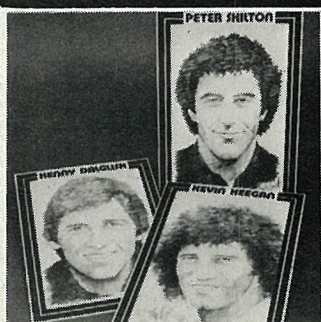
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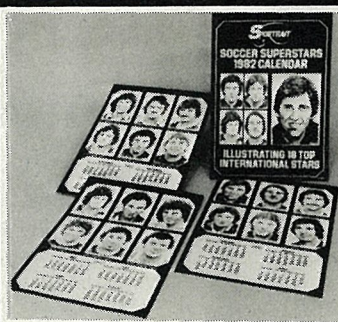
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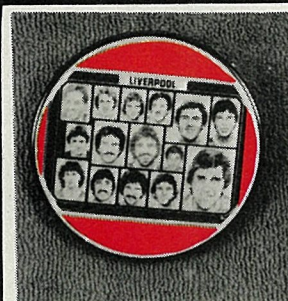
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THUMPING the table in front of him like some passionate politician at a party political conference, Allan Clarke reassured despondent Leeds United supporters: "I will bring you a trophy — and it will be a big one — inside three years."

The slimline manager, celebrating the first anniversary of his return to Elland Road, left no one in the room in doubt of his burning intentions.

He had just come through a weekend during which his Leeds side had been humiliated 4-0 at Coventry, his goalkeeper John Lukic had thrown the ball into his own net, and near-million pound winger Peter Barnes had been told: "Work harder — or go."

Clarke took it all solemnly and philosophically.

"The biggest difference between managing Barnsley and Leeds United is that at Barnsley I heard



Allan Clarke welcomes Peter Barnes to Elland Road following his transfer from West Brom.

'We can be great again'

"Men like Eddie Gray, Paul Hart and Brian Flynn are a manager's dream — and the same goes for the lad who's having his testimonial season at Leeds this year — Trevor Cherry.

"They are the sort of players who can make this club great again, and I am telling you Leeds United will be winning trophies again within three years.

"The trouble is all the supporters were spoiled by 'the great side' in which I played. We might never see a team like that again in our lifetime, but we will see one capable of bringing some silverware to Elland Road," he said.



Leeds stalwart Trevor Cherry.

'LEEDS Champions of Europe' promises manager ALLAN CLARKE

from the national Press boys about twice a season. At Leeds I hear from them twice a day.

"At Coventry we looked the world's worst team because we gave away four stupid goals, with silly, basic errors.

"But John Lukic is still the best young goalkeeper in the country and he will learn from his mistakes.

"So far as the Peter Barnes thing goes, it was blown up out of all proportion. We had a go at all the players, not just him. We want to see Peter break into a sweat occasionally for the sake of the team.

'Barnes stays'

"He is the best winger in the country but he has to give a bit more than he has been doing.

"Certain members of the Press took a quote from Martin Wilkinson out of context, and the next thing you know is they're getting Peter's reaction to something he hasn't heard.

"I will make one statement to them all. Peter Barnes is staying at Leeds United. He will not be leaving and neither will any of our other first team squad.

"I do not consider it the business of the Press, radio or television who I buy or sell until a deal is actually completed. I am fed up with reading the names of players all over Europe that I am supposedly about to add to the payroll," he said.

'No panic buying'

He admits to wanting three types of player: a strong target man in the mould of his old pal Mick Jones, a midfield player with the capacity to score goals, and a ball-winner.

"It has not been easy but the biggest thing I have learned in management is patience. If you panic you go one way — down.

"I will not be panicked into signing mediocre players. I want the best for Leeds United.

"Too often in the last few years they have gone for less than top quality and they have paid the price with failure.

"Last season we finished ninth in the First Division, and many people considered that success after seeing the team in the bottom three at the start of the season. I considered it failure.

"I will not rest in my job until Leeds United are Champions of Europe. When I was a player here during Don Revie's management our chief target was the European Cup. We failed at the last hurdle.

"We have a good squad of players, and with three additions we can go all the way. When we have won the European Cup I will have fulfilled my ambition."

Clarke, who was in no mood to take any prisoners, also took a

swipe at one of his predecessors — Brian Clough.

"The Nottingham Forest manager has said that this game is all about managers — well, I can tell him it is not. This game is about two sets of people — players and supporters.

"It is my privilege to manage players who are a credit to themselves and the game.



Triumph for Allan Clarke as a player — the 1972 F.A. Cup after his splendid headed goal against Arsenal.

Taxing problem

AAD DEMOS, the assistant coach at Dutch League leaders Ajax, told the Press that the club is asking Holland's Minister for Sport to press for special tax concessions for footballers on the grounds that they have a short career.

"We cannot keep our best players," says Demos, "because they have to pay between 50 and 70 per cent of what they earn in taxes."

NOT a world-shattering piece of news, but it seems only just to record one of the rare events in international football — an away win by Malta. A 68th minute goal by Tortell gave them a 0-1 victory over Tunisia in Tunis.

WORLD WIDE



Compiled by **CHRIS DAVIES**

IN Chile, the Audax Italiano goalkeeper Rodriguez is a man with a sense of humour.

He saved two penalties taken by international midfielder Neira in the match against Universidad Catolica, and recalled afterwards: "The referee looked so sick after I saved the second one that I was sure he was going to give them another penalty and take it himself!"

RELAXING away from the pressures of being captain of Cologne, top of the Bundesliga... West German international goalkeeper Toni Schumacher with his wife Marlies, son Oliver and daughter Vanessa.



is 'dead and buried'

YOU wouldn't give him a second look if you passed him in a Brazilian street. He's small, swarthy, balding, with a heavy black moustache. He's thick round the hips and even thicker above them.

Even if he pulled out his Brazilian identity card to prove that his name is Eduardo Goncalves de Andrade you'd be none the wiser.

Ask him his job and he'll tell you he works as a doctor in the Social Security at Belo Horizonte.

These days even the most avid student of the Brazilian side that sensationally won the 1970 World Cup would have problems in recognising the great Tostao.

What's more, the man himself is determined to bury the myth. "I'm a doctor now. I don't want to talk about Tostao. He's dead and buried."

And Eduardo's disregard for his glorious past is so complete that his children, Andre (3) and Marina (4) have never even heard the name Tostao mentioned at home.

It's ironical that a man obliged to abandon football at his peak and just two years after winning a World Cup should become a doctor.

In 1969 during a friendly be-

tween Cruzeiro and Corinthians a clearance by Ditao struck Tostao in the left eye, and the little striker had to go to Houston, Texas, for a complicated operation to deal with a detached retina.

That didn't stop him from starring in the World Cup a year later in Mexico, with his subtle skills providing an ideal foil for the explosive talents of Pele, Jairzinho and Rivelino.

Glorious

A World Champion at 24, Tostao looked to have a glorious career ahead of him.

All seemed to be going well when Tostao was transferred from Cruzeiro to Vasco da Gama in 1972, but after just 45 games disaster struck when it was least expected.

In another friendly, against Argentinos Juniors, he was hit again in the eye.

And this time the doctors at

Houston told him that his only chance of preserving his sight in the left eye was to give up football. At 26 his career was over.

"When I had to give up football I decided never to talk about the game again. I've always loved football, but I was never very keen on the footballer's way of life, and I was too shy to come to terms with being famous.

"Nowadays I go to matches occasionally and watch games on TV, but the rest of the time I devote to my medical books.

"The other day a football reporter came to interview me, and he was a bit perplexed when I refused to talk about football.

"Anyway, I'm a qualified doctor now and I'm still only 34. The Social Security are paying me about £140 a month, so I'm not going to make a fortune. But I'm doing what I've always wanted to do. The past is dead."

Even under his heavy modern disguise as Doctor Goncalves, the legend still smoulders on. As he makes his way to the hospital a boot-black looks at him and looks up at his client. "That's Tostao, the footballer..."

Luis tops

A SURVEY among First Division goalkeepers in Spain has confirmed Real Sociedad's international 'keeper Luis Arconada as the country's number one.

He was voted top in eight of the ten categories.

Betis 'keeper Esnaola was rated as having a better goal-kick.

And Real Madrid goalkeeper Miguel Angel is regarded as having sharper reflexes.

FC UTRECHT have a monster playing for them this season! He is left winger Jan Monster, a 22-year-old who was signed in 1980.

Always on Sunday

PAUL BREITNER was only 22 when he played in the 1974 World Cup Final and now he is half a stone lighter than he was then. He said recently: "I watch my weight very carefully and diet strictly. Only on Sunday do I let my hair down, have a meal of my choice, with a beer or wine and then on Monday morning I start again on a strict diet."



UNSETTLED SPAIN

SPAIN'S manager, Pepe Santamaria, still hasn't made up his mind about the basis for his World Cup squad, and is still experimenting with new names even though the big kick-off is now a matter of months away.

The latest newcomers to the long list of World Cup possibles are Ito (Real Madrid), Quique (Santander), Martin (right Osasuna), Juan Jose (Cadiz), Urbano (Espanol) and Senor (Zaragoza).

ASGEIR SIGURVINSSON, scorer of both Iceland's goals against Wales, still cannot get a regular place in the Bayern Munich team. Bayern coach Pal Csernai says of him: "He needs more time to settle in the Bundesliga which is much faster and better in quality than the game he was used to in Belgium."

THE French Prime Minister announced in the Parliament in Paris that the government would foot the bill to improve the grounds at Lyon, Marseille, Nantes and Strasbourg, as well as in Paris — if the French FA managed to persuade UEFA to stage the 1984 European Championship in France, which they are certain to do.

Italy star dismisses World Cup chances

BRAZIL, Argentina, and West Germany... you need look no further for next year's World Champions.

That's the opinion from a man who now seems certain to play in next year's Finals in Spain — Giampiero Marini (below, facing camera), the Italian

midfield star from Inter-Milan.

Why not Italy? Marini says: "I think these three teams are one step higher than us at the moment."

"I was very impressed with Brazil's play during their tour of Europe when they beat England, France and West Germany."

"We think we are the second best team in Europe and I'm sure we will give a good performance in Spain."

Marini is a late inclusion into the national side. He's now 30 and won all his seven caps in recent matches.

He was also in the side that crashed 3-1 to Denmark — surely one of the World Cup qualifying shocks so far.

Marini says: "That was a very bad result, probably our worst for many years. But the players were all tired and the results doesn't really matter."

Marini believes that Italy's insistence in getting a nucleus of the side from just one club outfit has been a big help.

He says: "Eight of our team come from Juventus and I'm sure that helps team spirit and also means the players know how their team-mates will play."

● **MARCO Tardelli**, the Juventus and Italy midfield star is very optimistic about Italy's World Cup chances.

"Italy are one of the best five teams in the world at the moment, and certainly the most experienced," he says.

"We need only a centre-forward to make us a great side."

Tardelli goes on "and in Spain Paolo Rossi will be eligible to play and I think we can win the World Cup with him."

FOCUS WITH A SMILE

Don MENOTTI

ONE of the penalties of fame is that people like Mike Yarwood start to do send-ups of you on radio or TV!

And this is exactly what's happened to Argentina manager César Luis Menotti, who's become one of his country's top personalities since the 1978 World Cup triumph.

In fact Menotti even complained about

T.V. personality Gerardo Sofovich when he began to do regular take-offs on his weekly TV show.

And recently Buenos Aires magazines Goles ran a spoof Focus on Menotti.

Some of the contents were Argentine in-jokes, but these extracts should give a fair idea of their approach:

FULL NAME: César Luis "Puma" Menotti
BIRTHPLACE: Corsica (France)
BIRTHDATE: June 25th, 1978 (the day Argentina won the World Cup)
HEIGHT: Very high
POSITION: Manager, journalist, agent for sports clothing manufacturer, male model and publicist
PREVIOUS CLUBS: Rosario Central, the 1954 Hungary team, the Real Madrid team with Puskas and di Stefano. The

Generals, Santos, Boca Juniors, Cosmos, Bayern Munich
CAR: 1962 Citroen 2CV (in fact he runs a BMW)
FAVOURITE PLAYER: Vincente Perna (he isn't a fan of the Boca hatchet-man)
FAVOURITE OTHER TEAM: Lorenzo's Boca Juniors (he is a fan of Lorenzo's hatchet-man)
MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENTS: Peru in 1978 (Argentina won 6-0)
FAVOURITE BOOK: The

complete works of Napoleon
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: The right-hand post at the Figueroa Alcorta end of the River Plate Stadium (where Rensenbrink's shot rebounded in the final minute of normal time in the World Cup Final)
BIGGEST AMBITION: To be manager of Boca Juniors, River Plate and the national team at the same time
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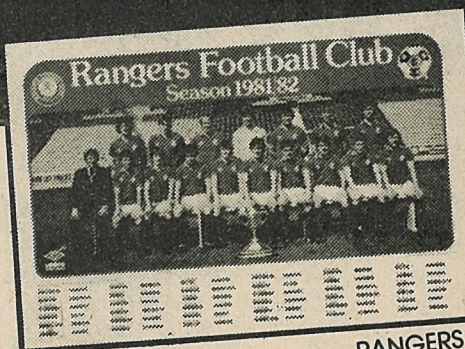
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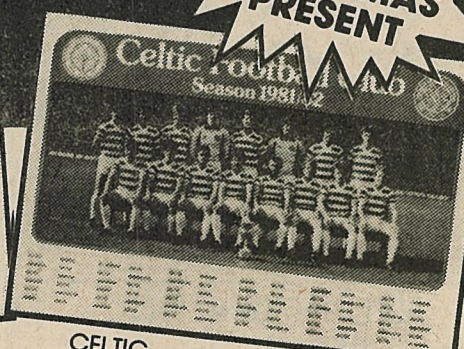
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Albion's CLIVE WHITEHEAD

SIX PLAYERS IN ONE

CLIVE Whitehead has "thrown out of the window" the best contract in football.

Bristol City had made him the top paid player in the Third Division at an estimated £500 per week — and he still had ten years of his 11-year contract to run when he signed for West Bromwich Albion.

"Security — certainly: money — great. But there has to be far more than that out of football," he states.

"It had been a dreadful couple of years at Ashton Gate as the club slid from the First Division to the Third.

"On top of that awful decline, I just didn't like the way we were playing. It was far too negative for my liking. Here were some of us, First Division players just a couple of years ago, worrying about Third Division teams.

"There was no confidence in the side. It was all about closing down opposing players and looking for a goal from a flick on. That's no way to play football, at least, not as far as I'm concerned," he states.

It was Alan Dicks, at the start of last season, who gave all-rounder Whitehead that extraordinary contract which made the game catch its breath.

A month later, Dicks — then the longest serving manager in the Football League — was fired and succeeded by Bobby Houghton.

The man who steered Swedish club Malmo to the Final of the European Cup in 1979 could not halt the decline of the West



Country club.

Whitehead confesses that his search for professional satisfaction faded badly despite the security and money. Now he is earning about the same money, his contract has been halved to five years . . . but he is twice as happy.

"After eight and a half years with Bristol City during which we achieved so much; after making so many friends and enjoying the company of supporters there, it was obviously a wrench to leave.

"But nothing had gone right at Ashton Gate, in my view, for too long."

Clive reveals that it was such a difficult decision that he missed the First Division game he wanted most, against Birmingham City, to give himself time to think.

"I did not want to be rushed. As it was, I missed the 'derby' clash

Clive Whitehead (top) powers his way through for Albion. Cyrille Regis (above) hunting for goals against West Ham at The Hawthorns.

against the side I supported as a kid," says the versatile player who was once a petrol pump attendant in hometown Birmingham.

That proved one of the thrillers of the season: 3-3 with Cyrille Regis scoring his second hat-trick in successive months.

Ironically, his first came against Swansea City whose victory at Ashton Gate exactly 12 months earlier had heralded the dismissal of Dicks!

All that, insists Whitehead, is now history and he rules: "I've got a different club, a different Division and a very different challenge.

"I'm certain that I can once again

adjust to the pace and skill levels of the First Division. I know I'm going to enjoy my football more.

"Albion have quick defenders who are encouraged to use the line, midfield players at their best going forwards and front players who have proved themselves as marksmen.

"The best sight in football is someone turning and whacking the ball into the net — and that is what players like Cyrille Regis achieve at Albion.

"Maybe Albion aren't one of the great glamour clubs in the game but there is the talent there to finish in a Euro-qualifying place again this season."

Abilities

The question still to be decided — and it could take quite a time with Whitehead's range of abilities — is his best position in Albion's team.

Manager Ronnie Allen knows that he brought six players in one when he paid Bristol City £100,000 for the talented all rounder.

"That is the other thing I would like settled," says Whitehead. "I think that it would benefit me, and Albion as well, if I had one position and stuck to it. I played every position apart from goalkeeper for City and I think it's time my wandering came to an end.

"Above all, however, it is being back in the First Division that matters. And that is where I want to play for the next ten years!" says the 25-year-old footballer.



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to be denied the ultimate honour. I am confident we will see a very different team from that which has struggled in the qualifying matches. They will be more relaxed in their five matches before the Finals, and a more relaxed playing force and management is a good thing. No one fancies England to do well, so the pressure will be off Ron Greenwood and the team. Ron's big task now is to introduce one or two younger players who will offer flair and score a few goals from unlikely situations. We need players capable of producing the unexpected.

I can see fit again Trevor Francis playing a major part in Ron's plans for Spain. A Kevin Keegan-Trevor Francis strike combination excites the senses — and could give defences a load of trouble in Spain.

Trevor's burning acceleration and unique ability to snatch goals from nothing will not be forgotten, even if Paul Mariner's goal makes him the golden boy of the victory over Hungary. Mariner has quality, but a more lethal finisher would have secured victory by a wider margin at Wembley.

I'd like to see Aston Villa's Gary Shaw given an opportunity in the next few months. If there's a loose ball bobbing about in the penalty area Shaw will put it away.

Mickey Mills, a magnificent servant and inspiring captain at

Ipswich, will be hard pressed to keep Kenny Sansom from wearing the number three shirt.

Alvin Martin's mature performance at Wembley has sealed his future and Phil Thompson is outstanding, both for Liverpool and England.

Phil Neal, Thompson's team-mate at Anfield, is unfairly criticised in my opinion and will keep his place after winning 34 caps.

Glenn Hoddle must be given a chance in midfield, where Trevor Brooking and Bryan Robson are assured of their positions. Robson's a gem of a find for England and Brooking, despite his age, has polish and that uncoachable quality, the ability to produce the unexpected.

Worries

But Terry McDermott, a wholehearted player for Liverpool and England, worries me. He's won more than 20 England caps but I've never seen him produce his club form for England.

Maybe Liverpool's style suits him more, it's difficult to put your finger on his problem. He doesn't find space when he occupies the England midfield.

I also want to see more of Tony Morley.

I've a sneaking feeling Continental man to man marking could give him problems.

Now back to my original statement about England's chances of winning the tournament.

West Germany, Brazil and Argentina are the only countries

Terry McDermott (below) has failed to reproduce his club form for England, but Tony Morley (above, right) could have a key role in Spain.



capable of beating England consistently. Against any of the other nations, we stand a good chance, winning some, losing some.

My view is that England can shatter a few dreams with realistic hopes of reaching the Semi-Finals with the seeding system in operation — and the possibility of winning the trophy.

If one of the big boys takes a tumble, anything could happen. England's performances could



depend on the time of the day they play. If we play in the evenings, the temperature will be acceptable. If our players are subjected to stifling heat in afternoon games, our success could be handicapped.

A final word on Ron Greenwood. I have no doubt at all that he will say goodbye to football management after the World Cup Finals. But before that sad day comes I would like to congratulate him on the campaign so far.

He's taken a battering from the Press in the qualifying games and it was a pleasure to see the national papers and television get behind him after Hungary's defeat at Wembley.

His achievement in taking England to Spain is unbelievable, considering the difficulties he faced with morale at a low ebb after Don Revie's regime.

I can guarantee this Ron — there will not be a dry eye in the John Bond household if you manage to pull off the biggest prize of all in football.

John Bond

BOBBY Moore, England's World Cup winning captain, says that our national team have no hope of winning next year's World Cup Finals.

Tommy Docherty is reported as saying that with opposition like Argentina and Brazil, England could be on their way home again from Spain ten days after their arrival.

I want to go on record for stating that in my opinion England can spring a major surprise at the tournament — and win the World Cup for the second time in their history.

Kevin Keegan and the boys are certainly capable of reaching the Semi-Finals even if they are likely

QUIZ TIME

WORLD CUP

England, Scotland Northern Ireland and Wales were involved in World Cup action recently. Can you answer the following questions about the qualifying ties?

1. Aston Villa's Tony Morley made his full England debut when he came on as a substitute against Hungary. Who did he replace in the second half?
2. It's the first time that England have

qualified for the World Cup Finals since 1954, 1958 or 1962?

3. Who played in goal for Scotland during their 2-1 defeat by Portugal in Lisbon?
4. Gerry Armstrong was Northern Ireland's hero when he scored the only goal of the game against Israel in the first or second half?
5. Wales suffered a 3-0 defeat by U.S.S.R. in Tbilisi. Was it their second, third or fourth loss in their qualifying section?

TROPHIES

1. Former F.I.F.A. President Sir Stanley Rous refereed a Cup Final in 1934. Was it an F.A. Cup or World Cup Final?
2. Is it true that Liverpool lost to Bayern Munich in the 1965-66 European Cup-Winners' Cup Final?
3. Did David Needham play for Nottingham Forest in the 1978-79 League Cup Final against Southampton at Wembley?
4. Has a Northern Ireland club ever won a major European trophy?
5. Has Manchester United's Ray Wilkins (right) ever appeared in an F.A. Cup Final?

PRESENT STARS

1. What is wrong with this statement? Chris White has been appearing for Arsenal in defence this season.
2. Derby County striker Kevin Hector began his Football League career with Bradford City or Bradford Park Avenue?
3. This midfield star began his League career with West Bromwich Albion. He was then transferred to Manchester City before moving to Everton. Was then transferred back to Maine Road. Can you identify this Scotland international player?
4. David Narey plays in the Scottish Premier Division for which club?
5. Can you name Leighton James' three previous League clubs?

DEFENDERS

1. Wigan Athletic's player-manager Larry Lloyd has played for four other League clubs . . . can you name them?
2. Aston Villa defender Ken McNaught (left) was signed for £100,000 from which First Division club?
3. Did Leeds United's Trevor Cherry win his first England cap while he was with his previous club, Huddersfield Town, or with the Elland Road club?
4. Dave Watson is playing central defender for which Second Division club?
5. Which current Wrexham defender won a European Cup Final medal with Liverpool in 1977?



TRUE OR FALSE?

1. The Scottish Premier Division was started prior to the 1977-78 season.
2. Watford full-back Pat Rice is a Republic of Ireland international.
3. Dynamo Dresden are from West Germany.
4. Chelsea's only success in the F.A. Cup Final was when they beat Leeds United in a replay in 1970 (above).
5. Second Division Barnsley play their home games at Oakwell and are nicknamed The Tykes.

ANSWERS:

TROPHIES: 1. F.A. Cup. 2. Yes. 3. Yes. 4. No. 5. No. PRESENT STARS: 1. His surname is spelt Whyte, not White. 2. Park Avenue. 3. Asa Hartford. 4. Dundee United. 5. Burnley, Derby and Q.P.R. TRUE OR FALSE? 1. False - it was 1975-76. 2. False - he is a Northern Ireland player. 3. False - they are from East Germany. 4. True. 5. True. WORLD CUP: 1. Steve Coppell. 2. 1962. 3. Billy Thomson (St. Mirren). 4. First. 5. Second. DEFENDERS: 1. Bristol Rovers. Liverpool, Coventry and Nottingham Forest. 2. Everton. 3. Leeds. 4. Norwich City. 5. Joey Jones.

ON THE BALL Answers

ACROSS:- (3) Over. (4) Coy. (6) Lurch. (7) Agree. (10) Ego. (14) Powell. (15) Corrigan. (17) Brooking. (18) Masson. (19) Eye. (21) Always. (23) Lukic. (24) His. (25) Knee. DOWN:- (1) Doyle. (2) Gerry Gow. (4) Carlisle United. (5) She. (8) Gregory. (9) Eel. (11) Grimsby. (12) Court. (13) Caton. (16) Andy King. (18) Mow. (20) Elm. 21 Aches. (22) Aas.

West Ham v. Arsenal

BRIAN Talbot is preparing himself for a new experience this Saturday (December 5).

The Arsenal midfield man goes to play at West Ham knowing his team will do well to get anything from their visit.

That's totally different from the past, when he has gone to Upton Park EXPECTING to get something.

"When I was at Ipswich — the last time I played against West Ham in the First Division — a trip there never used to bother us unduly," says Talbot.

"West Ham were recognised as a side good to play against and we always fancied ourselves to come away with something from the game.

"But it's different now. They have added steel and a burning desire to win to their make-up and I'm ready for one hell of a battle.

"Their home record speaks for itself. Not many go there now with much success and we know we'll have to do well to go against that trend.

"West Ham's success on their return to the First Division has surprised a lot of people.

"They have some outstanding individual players, but also work

'Gunners still a force'

—GEOFF PIKE



Geoff Pike heads clear from Liverpool's Graeme Souness (above). The West Ham man faces an equally tough battle with Arsenal's Brian Talbot (left) this Saturday.

'Hammers hit harder now'

—BRIAN TALBOT

hard for each other and you have to put them among the top half-dozen sides in the country at the moment.

"There's bound to be a tremendous atmosphere, for Upton Park is a tight little ground with the fans right on top of you.

"Those supporters are among the best in the business. They have a hard core who really appreciate the game and we know they will not be slow to give us praise if we deserve it."

Revenge for their 1980 F.A. Cup Final defeat will be uppermost in Arsenal's minds on Saturday. But West Ham believe The Gunners side right now is not as good as the one they faced at Wembley.

"How can it be?" asks West Ham's busy midfield man Geoff Pike. "They have lost Liam Brady and Frank Stapleton since then — and they are world class players.

"It seems to me they are missing striker Stapleton most of all. He had a perfect understanding with Alan Sunderland, who is suffering a bit from Frank's move to Manchester United.

"I can understand Brian Talbot's apprehension about coming to



play at our place.

"With our impressive home record I think I would worry about a trip to West Ham.

"The departure of Brady and Stapleton has obviously given Arsenal a few problems and they have been knocked a bit this season.

"But they won six games in a row and are obviously coming back to form.

"They are very well coached and organised by Don Howe, who has made them a side very difficult to beat.

"In players like Pat Jennings and David O'Leary they have stars among the best in the world in their positions.

"Graham Rix is very talented — and in John Hollins they have a man of who professional football can be proud.

"The way they apply themselves, Arsenal are always capable of getting something from a game, even if not playing well.

"We just have to make sure they get nothing from us this time."

NEXT WEEK...

The Young Lions who could be England heroes in Spain

SHOOT looks at the candidates for European Footballer of the Year



MICKEY THOMAS

— 'Why I left Everton'

TREVOR FRANCIS

— 'Soccer's gone crazy'

Scotland's Transfer HITS and MISSES

Meet soccer's 007

IN COLOUR...

Stoke City and Barnsley team groups + Ray Kennedy (Liverpool) + George McCluskey (Celtic) + Paul Hart (Leeds) + John Robertson (Forest) and Super Focus on Tottenham's Graham Roberts.

AND... Gary Shaw; Justin Fashanu; Phil Thompson; Danny McGrain and Ray Wilkins. Only the BIGGEST names write for SHOOT!

ALSO... news of our bumper Christmas issue.

SHOOT

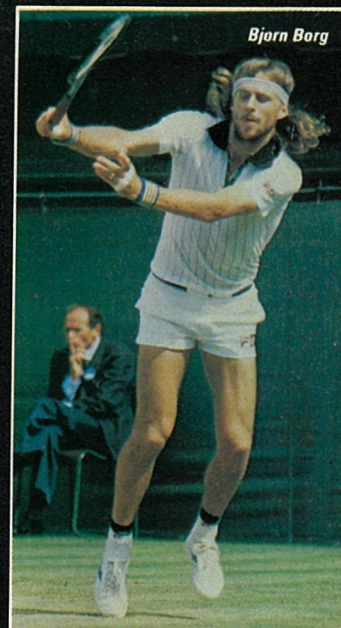
... you won't buy a better soccer magazine!

Super Focus

FULL NAME: Toine van Mierlo
BIRTHPLACE: Socrendonki, Netherlands
BIRTHDATE: August 24, 1957
HEIGHT: 5ft 11ins
WEIGHT: 12 stone
MARRIED: No
CAR: Ford Escort
PREVIOUS CLUBS: Kraanvogels, PSV Eindhoven, Willem II
JOB OR TRADE BEFORE TURNING PRO: Teacher
NICKNAME: None
FAVOURITE NEWSPAPER: Voetbal International
FAVOURITE PLAYER: Antognoni (Italy)

A PLAYER FOR THE FUTURE: Ian Handysides (Birmingham)
FAVOURITE OTHER TEAM: Ipswich
FOOTBALL HERO OF CHILDHOOD: Johan Cruyff
FAVOURITE OTHER SPORT: Tennis
OTHER SPORTS PERSON YOU MOST ADMIRE: Bjorn Borg
YOUR BEST EVER ALL TIME XI: Van Beveren; Krol, Passarella, Gentile, Tarrantini; Maradona, Cruyff, Antognoni; Pele, Eusebio, Rummenigge
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: Willem II v Roda JC. I scored three goals in 45 minutes
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: My debut against Ireland.

FRIENDLIEST AWAY FANS: At the Parc des Princes, Paris
BEST STADIUM PLAYED IN: Old Trafford
FAVOURITE FOOD AND DRINK: Steak and lager
MISCELLANEOUS LIKES . . .
DISLIKES: Winning . . . Being injured
FAVOURITE SINGERS: Roxy Music, Rod Stewart
FAVOURITE ACTOR . . .
ACTRESS: Robert Redford and Jane Fonda
FAVOURITE HOLIDAY RESORT: Greece
BEST FILM SEEN RECENTLY: 'The Sting'
FAVOURITE TV SHOW: Different Strokes
FAVOURITE ACTIVITY ON DAY OFF: Listen to music
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: Henk De Jonge. He had a good understanding with players
SUPERSTITIONS: Always put my right boot on first



Bjorn Borg

TOINE VAN MIERLO

Birmingham
and Holland

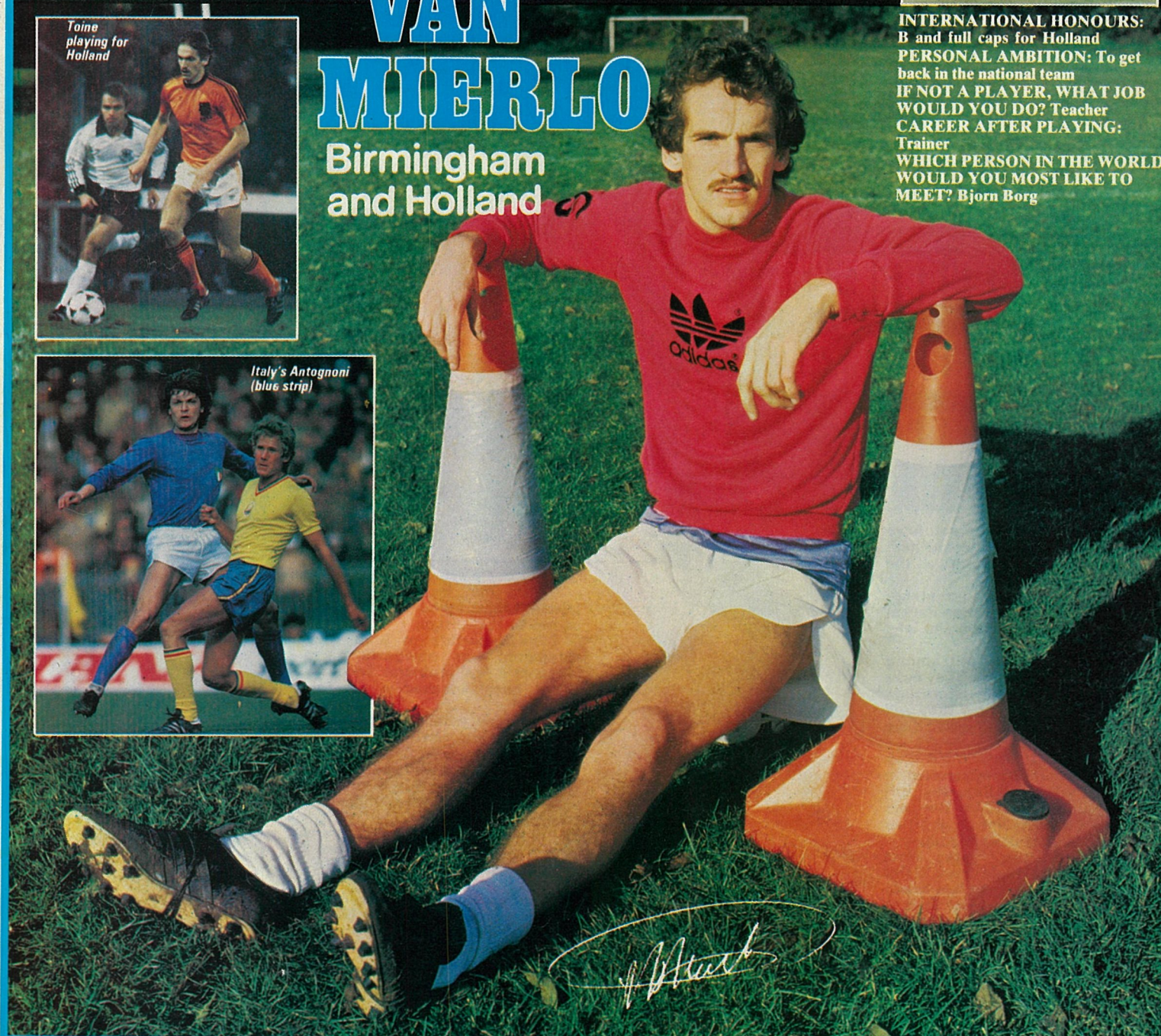


Toine
playing for
Holland



Italy's Antognoni
(blue strip)

INTERNATIONAL HONOURS: B and full caps for Holland
PERSONAL AMBITION: To get back in the national team
IF NOT A PLAYER, WHAT JOB WOULD YOU DO? Teacher
CAREER AFTER PLAYING: Trainer
WHICH PERSON IN THE WORLD WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET? Bjorn Borg



SHOOT!